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A HISTORY

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BOARD OF CHURCH
EXTENSION
A HISTORY

SEMI-CENTENNIAL
1882 - 1932

BY
HARVEY MARINUS KING
Architect - Secretary
Board of Church Extension

BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH
LOUISVILLE, KY.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST OF THE
BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION
ON ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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INTRODUCTION

The facts and events which form the basis of a history of the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, are full of interest to those who understand its purpose and recognize its value. Every individual who acquaints himself with church extension achievement is preparing himself for a more effective ministry to the Church, and enlarging the opportunities of the Board for service. The Board of Church Extension occupies a unique position in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Its accomplishments have been great. It has earned the confidence of the Church which supports it. The Kingdom can yet be strengthened by increased liberality and greater loyalty on the part of our people in their support of this institution.

The year 1932 marks the semi-centennial of the Board of Church Extension. During the fifty years that have passed since its organization there have been only six secretaries. Their names and years of service are as follows: David Morton, sixteen; P. H. Whisner, eight; W. F. McMurry, twelve; H. A. Boaz, two; S. H. C. Burgin, two; and T. D. Ellis, ten to the present time.

Within the past decade a revival of Church Extension has spread over the South. Some of the great church buildings on the American Continent are housing congregations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. They are modern buildings, providing every convenience, not only for worship but for the furtherance of the educational and evangelistic work conducted by the Church.

Institutions of this kind not only portray the devotion of our Methodist people, but furnish an inspiration for better church buildings.

Grateful recognition is hereby given to Dr. T. D. Ellis for his counsel and guidance during the writing of this book, and to both Dr. Ellis and Dr. R. N. Allen for carefully reading the manuscript.

H. M. KING.

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I

CHURCH BUILDING AND THE KINGDOM

TRAVELING through Syria and Arabia, one sees the goat-hair tents of the nomadic tribes dotting the desert sands or the rocky and barren land. Sometimes a single tent will appear isolated, forlorn and unstable. Again these shelters are seen in groups of two or three. They are the dwelling places of wanderers. They cannot be called homes, for tomorrow may see their trapping scattered before the winds. No growth or improvement has been seen in them through the passing of centuries. Hence no civilization has been fostered and no society engendered, because no permanent home or abiding place has become indigenous to the soil.

History has revealed that the values of government, society, civilization, or religion were not preserved until the building which housed the family was given a permanent foundation. Thus the building, protecting and preserving the family, has been the agency that has enshrined its spirit and reflected its glory. The same is true of the church building. It is the home of the family of God. Without the church building, a separate and distinct edifice devoted entirely to the protection and preservation of the forms of worship, no body of believers can hope to hold intact its united existence. The church building is the landmark of the Kingdom of God. It is the temple of worship, the shrine of faith, and "the permanent depository of the oracles of God."

When the tribes of Israel wandered about carrying with

them the ark of the covenant—moving it and the tabernacle from place to place—the idolatry and the high places of pagan peoples drew them away from the influences of Jehovah. The lack of permanency in the place of worship can account for much of the idolatrous dissipation.

When the temple came into its glory according to the pattern shown in the mount and a permanent center of worship took shape in the magnificent structure on Mount Moriah, the golden age of Jewish history had come. Solomon's Temple stood for four centuries, "the crown of Jerusalem and the glory of the Jews." The Kingdom of God can make little progress in the world without buildings adequate, permanent, and attractive. Present-day conditions among every nation of the world demand an edifice which shall house the assemblies of God.

The world needs the church building because it is the house of God. Worship is conducted within its walls. Evangelism is promoted and its results are conserved. The Word of God is explained and enforced, and upon its permanent records the acts and revelations of God are set down.

It is the house of the people. Within its pale confession may be made. It is a place of refuge and forgiveness. Altars for prayer are provided. Ministers to exhort, instruct, and teach are found within its sacred precincts. "All are equal within the Church's gate." It is an asylum for mankind. It is a pity that the doors of all churches are not kept open day and night, thereby becoming a perpetual open door of hope, giving its kindly ministrations to all men always.

"How pleasant, how divinely fair,
O Lord of hosts, thy dwellings are!

With strong desire my spirit faints
To meet the assemblies of thy saints."

From the dawn of creation man has sought to build altars upon which he has worshiped and offered sacrifices. In Genesis 8: 20, Noah is described as having built an altar after the flood and worshiped upon it. He brought every clean beast and every clean fowl and offered burnt offerings. God was pleased with the spirit of worship, and gave promises to Noah and through him to succeeding generations.

Moses was commanded to go into the Mount and there to receive the pattern of the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle. "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering. And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate. And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." (Exodus 25: 1-8.)

From the day of this divine command until the present time, the above Scripture sets forth how the building of great sanctuaries for worship shall be carried on. Men have been moved by the spirit of God, and out of willing hearts have the materials for building been joyfully given so that a tabernacle could be provided for God's indwelling.

The infant Church in New Testament times found its domicile in the homes of the Christians.

A traveler visiting the modern city of Rome can be led into the Church of St. Maria in Via Lata which, according to the custom of early centuries, is erected upon the foundations, or ruins, of buildings of preceding centuries. When he descends into the depth of the excavations he sees a simple house outside the walls of the ancient city of Rome—held to be the house where Paul lodged with the centurion when he was in Rome. A few tiers higher can be seen the foundations and walls of an eighth-century church, founded by Sergius. Higher yet stands a fourteenth-century church, built by Innocent VIII, and on top of that a sixteenth-century church built under Alexander VII which remains complete even today. Thus, tier upon tier, the church building, in stable and magnificent stone, rises, a silent but compelling witness to the fact that the building is a part of religious worship.

It is significant that many of the great buildings and monuments of the world have been the products of religion. Of non-Christian cults there is the Temple of Heaven in China. The Pyramids of Egypt are supposed to have been erected under religious impulse. St. Sophia in Constantinople (now a Mohammedan mosque), St. Peter's in Rome, Notre Dame in Paris, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's in London—all these are magnificent in conception. They show the insistent demands of man's religious spirit for expression in worship in structures of beauty and permanence.

When the Wesleyan evangelistic movement began to gain momentum in England, John Wesley, although a priest of the Established Church, was not permitted to

conduct services within the church buildings of the established order. He and his followers were driven to the streets and the market places. The Church of England would not countenance this new departure so thrust it out as fanatical and undesirable. In the beginning, therefore, Methodism had no buildings. Wesley and his followers took to the fields.

In 1739 John Wesley secured the use of an old building in London. Thirty years previous an accidental explosion had wrecked this building in which cannon were being cast then for the government. Money was borrowed to make necessary repairs so the place would be habitable. It is notable that this building, the first to be converted into a Methodist church, was located in the city where its supporters began their work grappling with the problem of city evangelization. The building contained galleries for men and women, desks for a school, a "book room," a chapel, parsonage and dispensary, and for thirty-eight years served as headquarters of Methodism and the center of all its varied forms of religious and charitable work. Here also Methodism made provision for such varied activities as evangelistic, pastoral, educational, and charitable work, besides worship.

This old cannon factory has been regarded as the first Methodist church building, but it was not erected for that purpose. The first church that was ever built by Methodists was located at Bristol, England, and it is standing today in a good state of preservation.

The first churches which were erected for worship by Methodists in the United States were John's Street in New York City and the meetinghouse on Sam's Creek in Maryland. The latter was erected by Robert Strawbridge.

There has been a long-drawn-out controversy as to which of these two buildings was the first to take form. That question, however, is not vital. It is enough to know that in the beginning the Methodists began to establish themselves firmly in this country by building substantial churches for worship and for conserving the results of the intensive efforts which were projected by the early circuit riders. Even before the building of John's Street Church, New York, and the erection of the "meetinghouse" at Sam's Creek, the Methodists met in the old "Rigging Loft" in New York City.

Church buildings in the pioneer days were not very elaborate, being built mainly in the wilderness of logs and of simple design. Many of them in the South stand today as the historic sanctuaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The succession of events leading to the organization of the Board of Church Extension and continuing through the first sixteen years of its existence are so closely associated with the life of one man that any comprehensive account of its work must include many incidents from the life and work of David Morton. In fact, the stamp of his genius has been so indelibly impressed upon the Board through its Charter, first Constitution, By-Laws and General Rules that his influence is strongly felt today—fifty years after their adoption.

Anyone who seeks inspiration from the reading of biography will do well to turn to the account of the life of our first Church Extension Secretary prepared by Bishop E. E. Hoss, who regarded this man as a dear and honored friend. Bishop Hoss has titled his book *David Morton—A Biography*. He shows how the experiences of the man

peculiarly fitted him for the great work he was to direct as Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension during the last sixteen years of his life.

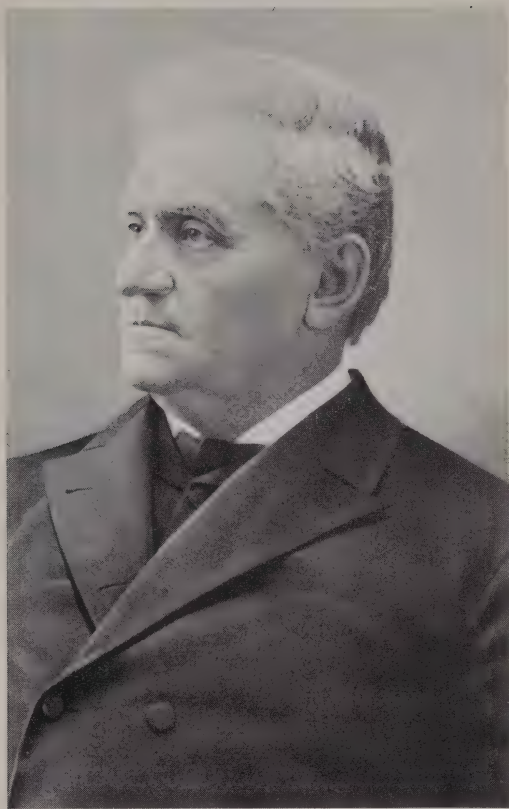
David Morton was born in Russellville, Kentucky, June 4, 1833. His boyhood days were spent among the hills of Logan County, Kentucky, which formed a rugged setting that was calculated to foster men of strong mold. Here some of the most prominent families of Kentucky lived and died. Here, also, David Morton spent his youth amid social surroundings that were simple and chaste though neither severe nor prudish. Among the most vital influences upon his life was the home—a sanctuary of love and purity.

At the age of fourteen he joined the Methodist Church as a seeker of Christ, under the ministry of the Rev. F. M. English, and during the pastorate of Rev. Thomas Bottomly he was soundly converted December 25, 1851, while kneeling at the altar to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. He was licensed to preach by the Quarterly Conference of the Russellville Station, in 1852, but received the papers with such vigorous protest that they had to be literally thrust into his hands. In 1853 he was admitted on trial into the traveling connection at the session of the Louisville Conference which met at Owensboro, Kentucky, and when assigned to the Mammoth Cave Circuit, he was greatly surprised. He had hoped to be appointed Junior Preacher on the Logan Circuit, where he might preach on Sundays, and remain in his business office during the week as usual. Immediately upon hearing of his appointment, he left the church in an abstracted state of mind. When he came to himself he was on the bank of the Ohio River a mile above the city. A fearful

struggle was surging within him, and suddenly he determined to end it by leaping into the jaws of a watery grave. Just then a steamboat rounded a bend to prevent such action and again to foil Satan in a singular manner. That hesitation saved him, for it gave him time to consider. On the sands among the willows, he knelt and cried mightily to God, later to arise a preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ, commissioned and consecrated by the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

David Morton was married August 8, 1854, to Miss Hannah Wilson Bottomley, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Bottomley, during whose pastorate at Russellville he was converted. From the date of his marriage to that of his election as Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension his life was filled with a succession of events incident to the duties attending his work. In him were happily combined the absolute fidelity to duty, the energy, and the sagacity that made him conspicuously successful in the great work committed to his hands. The work he has done will be his monument.

In 1876 Bishop Marvin sent Mr. Morton to Montana. His experiences in the territory—now included in the Northwest Conference—as Presiding Elder and also as pastor of our church at Helena, Montana, had an important bearing upon organizing the future Board of Church Extension. The appointment to this far-distant field that required nearly a month to travel by train, narrow-gauge railroad, and stage in order to reach it was made for the purpose of studying the needs of the Church in the Northwest, and ascertaining the future outlook of such an important and rapidly developing pioneer section of the United States. Thither had gone many South-



REV. DAVID MORTON, D.D.
SECRETARY, 1882-1897

ern people, hoping to regain in this new country their fortunes lost by the vicissitudes of war. Many of them were Methodists and had organized Sunday schools and churches and were appealing to the mother Church to "come over into Macedonia and help us." It was intended that as a result of his observations, Mr. Morton should report what policy was advisable for the Church—either retirement from the field or a more extended occupation. His decision was for the latter, and from it he never swerved during the remainder of his life. He not only advocated this policy, but pointed out a constructive plan by which it could be made possible.

Among other things he maintained that the building of churches was the most important, if permanent occupancy was to result from the self-sacrificing work of the ministers who labored in that far-away field. There were many instances in Montana where the hard pioneering work done by our preachers had failed of lasting results. Time and again a nucleus of members had been gathered together and a start made for a permanent congregation, using the various homes of the members as a meeting place. The people were struggling to establish themselves in a new country and therefore were too poor to build churches. As a result, communities lacked faith in the permanency of such societies whose vitality needed to be evidenced by the actual building of churches. Before going to the West members of those little bands had belonged to the mother Church which furnished a common tie that held them together for a time. However, a society thus composed could not project itself upon the community and extend the Kingdom of Heaven among the irreligious without a public place of gathering where divine worship

could be held and religious revivals conducted. The erection of a building for worship always gave the Church a position of greater respect and influence in the community. Mr. Morton pointed out that these things were true not only of Montana, but of all the work of the West, and, in fact, wherever missionary money was expended. He affirmed that the only remedy for the condition throughout the Church was the organization of a church-building department connectional in its scope.

After one year Mr. Morton returned to Kentucky with these ideas firmly rooted in his mind. He lost no time in laying them before Bishop McTyeire, who acquiesced in them fully and became their advocate ever after in the College of Bishops and throughout the Church. It seemed evident from the beginning that this movement for systematic church-building, whenever inaugurated, must be a connectional one, with the whole Church lending its aid to homeless congregations unable by themselves to build houses of worship.

Prior to the time when the Board of Church Extension was organized, a society that planned to build, first raised all the money possible from among its own members, then solicited funds from the community at large, and then appealed to other neighboring Methodist congregations and individuals. When Mr. Morton was a young pastor at Bardstown, Kentucky, in an old settled community, he found the resources of his little congregation inadequate to the task which confronted it, so he mounted his horse and traveled over the southern section of the Louisville Conference canvassing for money among his friends and acquaintances, and Methodists in general. Each congregation had to work out for itself, without advice or counsel

or financial help from the Church at large, the problem of its own house of worship.

Bishop Marvin's death, on November 19, 1877, was a great bereavement to Mr. Morton, and the loss of his counsel and help was keenly felt by all who were interested in the Church Extension movement. Bishop Marvin, with Bishop McTyeire, had been instrumental in sending Mr. Morton to Montana and had given him his final instructions.

During the next four years Mr. Morton never lost his enthusiasm for the new Church enterprise, but pondered over it, discussed it whenever an opportunity offered with the leaders of his Church, and matured in his own mind the fundamental principles on which definite action should be based. During his pastorate at Elkton and while presiding elder of the Louisville District the subject was ever with him. He talked about it, wrote about it, and investigated the church extension methods adopted by other Churches to meet the same problem. At a later date, when he had become Secretary of the Board, he publicly acknowledged in his first annual report the benefits acquired from studying the achievements of other Churches. He had the profoundest regard for Bishop McTyeire, who always gave him a sympathetic hearing during his frequent visits to Nashville. He really became obsessed with his subject and thoroughly convinced that it was his duty to promote it by all possible means.

As the result of the work of those interested there was considerable discussion in the Church press and elsewhere during the quadrennium that immediately preceded the General Conference of 1882 concerning the necessity for a General Board of Church Extension to supplement the

work of the Board of Missions and to give material help in the building of suitable houses of worship in both home and foreign fields. Many of the wisest leaders gave it their hearty approval. Many others vigorously opposed it, saying that it was simply another step in the over-organization of the Church and that it meant saddling upon pastors, who were burdened already, the necessity of taking an additional collection from reluctant congregations.

Sentiment in the West was strongly for the new movement. In 1881 the Montana Conference went so far as to organize a Conference Board of Church Extension for the purpose of facilitating the building of churches within the bounds of that Conference. This action was the result of a suggestion from Rev. E. J. Stanley. Mr. Stanley was an able and eloquent advocate for an organized movement in behalf of Church Extension and contributed much to its inauguration by his stirring appeals through the Church papers. In commenting on the report of the Montana Conference Mr. Morton expressed profound gratification that Mr. Stanley was able to realize the fulfillment of his wishes. Those very churches for which he had pleaded so pathetically, and which, except for his intelligent and faithful effort would not have been erected, were receiving aid from an auxiliary of the Parent Board which he helped to create. The two churches at Boulder, Montana, and Stevensville, Montana, are literally the first fruits of the Church Extension spirit in our Church, and well deserve that high distinction.

This first Conference Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, antedates the organization of the Parent Board. As evidence of this fact we have Mr. Morton's testimony that the movement

leading to the establishment of the Parent Board actually originated in Montana. However, the first grant of the General Board was made to our church at Socorro, New Mexico, and the amount appropriated was paid November 11, 1882.

About this time the Denver Conference organized a society of its own, and kindred sentiment stirred in the tree tops of Kentucky and Missouri.

It is significant that Mr. Morton was not a member of the General Conference that elected him to the secretaryship of the Board of Church Extension. Already his reputation was connectional.

When he entered upon his office, he had nothing but the authority of the Church with which to start. Two great tasks lay before him: First, to organize his office; and, second, to secure funds for carrying out the enterprise in hand. Neither of these tasks was light. If his business capacity had been smaller, he would have failed; but he knew how to begin intelligently, and in less than a year he had everything running on definite schedules. The charter which he obtained from the Kentucky Legislature was drawn up under his eye, if not by his hand. It is an ideal one.

Besides inaugurating his office system, the Corresponding Secretary had enough work on the outside to occupy the full time of several men. The new movement had to encounter a great deal of criticism and opposition even after it had been adopted by the General Conference. There were many men—good men, too—in various parts of the Church who had but little interest in it and were inclined to look upon it with indifference even though they did not act in direct opposition to it. To deal with every-

body so as to convert definite antagonism into active and cordial support required energy, good sense, and a most conciliatory spirit. He began a tour of the Annual Conferences and kept it up almost without slackening for sixteen years.

Dr. Morton—for we must give him the title which Centenary College, Jackson, Louisiana, bestowed upon him in 1883—was, of course, re-elected to the secretaryship by the General Conference of 1886 for another quadrennium. He had, in fact, done his work so well that no one was mentioned to take his place.

It has been said of Dr. Morton that he was a financier of marked ability. No matter how discouraging the prospect, his indomitable courage and tireless energy always succeeded in solving the financial difficulties of every enterprise that he undertook. When his fitness for the position of Secretary of the Board of Church Extension was under discussion, a member of his own Conference said about him: "If you want a man that can go on a bare rock and raise a crop without seed or soil, David Morton is the man. He has money sense and Methodist religion."

The selection of a Secretary to serve the General Board during the third quardennium was a matter of great importance, but the confidence of the Church in the man who had served it for two quadrenniums already was evidenced by the votes cast for him at the General Conference at St. Louis, 1890.

In 1894 Dr. David Morton was declared duly elected Secretary of the Board of Church Extension for the fourth time, and, as the figures indicate, it was practically with no opposition. It was to be his last General Conference and his last quadrennium. The Board had just

passed through the financial storm and stress of the panic of 1893. Dr. Morton's reference to this period indicates clearly the strain to which the Board of Church Extension was subjected: "The twelfth year of the existence of this Board was one of extreme and unexampled hardship throughout the length and breadth of our land, and the financial panic through which the country passed was not without its effects upon our work."

After a life of achievement the veteran Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, Rev. David Morton, D.D., was taken away with tragic suddenness. His death occurred on March 9, 1898. By tireless industry, indomitable energy, passionate devotion to one work, out of formless void he created, then organized and directed, our Church Extension department, with such phenomenal success as to cause his name to be enshrined among those of our greatest leaders. The history of the Church cannot be written without giving a large place to him. To discharge the duties of Corresponding Secretary until the Board could choose Dr. Morton's successor, Mr. Wilbur F. Barclay, who had served for five years past as Assistant Secretary, was elected officially as Acting Corresponding Secretary.

An exhibit of the work of the Board of Church Extension during the first sixteen years of its existence under the secretaryship of Dr. Morton was prepared several years later by Dr. McMurry while he was Secretary. The progress made by the Board and the importance of the work in the formative years of its existence are clearly revealed by his figures which are shown below:

At the time of Dr. Morton's death, 3,817 churches had been aided to the extent of \$947,294, and 604 parsonages

had been aided to the extent of \$84,685.65. By adding these two amounts we find the total aid rendered to be \$1,031,979.65.

During the same period the amount paid on general assessment was \$767,328.63; the amount received on specials was \$40,089.63; the amount received on loan funds was \$128,715.21; the annual interest earned, less annuities, was \$30,077.29, and the increase of loan fund capital was \$158,792.50.

In the last quadrennium of Dr. Morton's administration the average rate of church building was six and one-half per week or a little more than one for each week day.

During these first years of struggle while the obstacles of a new organization were being encountered the Loan Fund Capital was brought from nothing in 1882, when the Board was organized, to \$158,792.50 at the close of Dr. Morton's administration in 1898.

In the field of Church Extension, David Morton labored for almost sixteen years. He would say to his most intimate friends: "I believe God intended that I should do this work and that my previous life has been a training for it." It was David Morton who laid the broad and secure foundations of our Church Extension work. First and last, he had many competent and worthy helpers, and since he has passed away his plans have been successfully enforced and supplemented by those who have succeeded him.

II

ORGANIZING THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION

WHEN the General Conference met at Nashville, Tennessee, Wednesday morning, May 3, 1882, the need for an organization to promote church extension was emphasized by Bishop McTyeire as he read the following words from the Episcopal Address:

“An organization without complex machinery, simple but efficient, and of Connectional extent, by which the strong could help the weak in the work of Church extension, would meet a want that has found a general expression among our people. The Missionary Board cannot conveniently aid feeble societies in new settlements in securing suitable houses of worship, and thus occupying new stations. This is aside from its main purpose, and, in the opinion of some, trenches upon its constitutional powers.”

Before adjournment at noon a resolution was offered and adopted by the General Conference calling for the appointment of a committee, consisting of one member from each Annual Conference, to be called the Committee on Church Extension. On the afternoon of the same day a committee was nominated by the respective delegations and confirmed by the Conference.

Just two weeks later, on Wednesday morning, May 17, 1882, the Committee submitted a report, the consideration

of which was begun immediately by the Conference and which, after sundry amendments, was finally adopted on the 22d day of May. The report provided for the creation of a board and also prescribed the methods of organization. After several days of discussion and sundry amendments the following Constitution of the Board of Church Extension was adopted:

“ARTICLE I. There shall be a Board of Church Extension, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and thirteen Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, and to continue in office until their successors are elected and accepted. The Bishops shall be, *ex-officio*, members of the Board. The Board shall fill all vacancies that may occur during the intervals of the General Conference.

“ARTICLE II. The officers elected by this General Conference shall, as soon as practicable, procure, under general or special law of the State of Kentucky, an incorporation, whereby they and their successors in office, in perpetual succession, shall be made a body corporate under the name of ‘Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South,’ with powers of contracting and being contracted with, suing and being sued, and all other powers deemed necessary for the successful prosecution of the work, not inconsistent with these Articles.

“ARTICLE III. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board, under its direction, and shall be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by whom his salary shall be fixed and paid. He may be a member of any Annual Conference, but shall reside where the Board is located.

“ARTICLE IV. The Board shall be located in the city of Louisville, Kentucky, and shall meet at least annually at the time the Board shall determine, and at such other times as the President and the Corresponding Secretary may appoint. Nine shall constitute a quorum at an annual meeting, and seven at a called meeting.

“ARTICLE V. The revenues of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation, from special collections by the Corresponding Secretary and the Bishops, and from gifts, devises, and bequests.

“ARTICLE VI. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to determine what amount each Annual Conference shall be asked to raise by collections for the use of the Board during the ensuing year; to appropriate money to pay incidental expenses; to determine what amount may be donated or loaned to each applicant; and to do such other business as may be legitimate and proper for them to do. *Provided, however,* that no money shall be appropriated in the general work for other purposes than the purchase or securing of church-lots and the erection or securing of church-buildings; and *provided, further,* that the Board shall not involve itself in debt.

“ARTICLE VII. The Board shall have authority to raise and administer a Loan Fund, which shall be held separate from funds raised for general distribution, and which shall be used only in loans on adequate security, to be determined by the Board; to receive and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, any real or personal property, and to sell and convey the same for the uses and objects herein declared.

“ARTICLE VIII. All applications for aid shall set forth:

1. A description of the building for which the aid is asked.
2. The estimated and probable cost when completed.
3. The amount of cash and reliable subscriptions on hand.
4. The nature of the title, its validity, whether held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.
5. The names of the Board of Trustees.
6. The number of Church-members, Sunday-school children, and population of the place, if within a town or city.
7. Any additional facts that may be required by the Board, or that may be deemed necessary or useful to the Board in making a decision.

“ARTICLE IX. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Conference Board of Church Extension, which shall be auxiliary to the Parent Board, and shall have charge of all the interests and work of Church extension within the Conference. The preachers shall take up a collection in every congregation annually for Church extension; and of the funds thus collected, or in any other way coming into the hands of the Annual Conference Boards, fifty per cent shall be turned over to the General Board to be expended under its direction, but devisers may give special directions to their contributions.

“ARTICLE X. It shall be the duty of the presiding elders to bring the subjects of Church extension prominently before the District and Quarterly Conferences, and see to it that the most efficient plans are adopted for raising the amounts apportioned to the charge; and the Bishops shall call for a report of the Annual Conference Board

in the regular order of Conference proceedings, and direct attention to the subject."

The action taken on the several articles shows that the constitution for the Board of Church Extension was not adopted idly but with the usual care and consideration, substitutes, amendments, and discussion that accompany the formation of new bodies so important as that of the Board of Church Extension.

The Conference proceeded to fill the blank in Article IV, locating the Society. The following places were nominated: Little Rock, Kansas City, Louisville, St. Joseph, Memphis, Nashville, Sacramento, Dallas, Springfield, Illinois, Atlanta, Richmond, St. Louis.

The vote resulted as follows: Little Rock, 15; Kansas City, 24; Louisville, 46; St. Joseph, 2; Memphis, 7; Nashville, 8; Sacramento, 3; Dallas, 7; Springfield, Illinois, 2; Atlanta, 27; Richmond, 3; St. Louis, 24; total, 168.

No place having received a majority, the vote was taken the second time and resulted as follows: Little Rock, 11; Kansas City, 26; Louisville, 89; other places withdrawn.

On motion of P. A. Peterson, the vote for Louisville was made unanimous.

The blank in Article II was filled with the word "Kentucky," and the time of meeting was left to the decision of the Board.

It is interesting to see the attempt that was made to change the status of the Board of Church Extension by having the following substitutes offered for the whole report:

"Whereas it is the sense of this Conference that the Church Extension Societies should be established throughout the Connection; and whereas it is believed that an

enterprise so important and untried should receive thoughtful consideration and proper trial before it is allowed to assume any elaborate and permanent organization; therefore,

“Resolved, 1. That our Church editors, pastors, and Presiding Elders are hereby required to bring the matter before their respective audiences.

“2. That our Bishops are respectfully instructed to present the same to each Annual Conference, use their influence to have the various Conferences organize a Society, on the basis of allowing the respective Conferences to retain fifty per cent of the amounts collected, for building churches in their own bounds, the balance to be forwarded to the Secretary and Board of Missions, and applied to the aid of such communities as in their judgment are in greatest need of help.

“3. That the question of a Central Board is hereby referred to the General Conference of 1886.

J. W. McGEHEE,	H. W. FOOTE,
J. W. FITCH,	THEODORE TURNBULL,
T. L. BOSWELL,	T. T. CHRISTIAN,
ANSON WEST,	H. J. ADAMS.”

This substitute was laid on the table—ayes, 123; noes, 44. Finally, a motion was made to lay the whole report on the table, but the motion did not prevail. Thus the report, as amended, was adopted and the Constitution became law.

On the 23rd of May the following managers of the Board of Church Extension were named: W. T. Harris, C. I. Vandeventer, J. C. Morris, W. F. Compton, C. D. Shands, J. H. Carlisle, F. B. Carroll, H. C. Settle, Joseph

Emery, C. E. Brown, C. B. Seymour, James G. Carter, and J. C. Woodward.

The bishops of the Church were named as *ex-officio* members. James S. Lithgow was elected President; Presley Meguiar, Vice-President; John W. Proctor, Treasurer; and David Morton, Corresponding Secretary. After a few weeks C. B. Seymour and J. C. Woodward resigned, and C. S. Grubbs and John L. Wheat were put in their places.

The Board held its first meeting exactly one month after it was created. During the year that followed it held five called meetings, none of which was very fully attended. The managers were scattered over the whole Church, and the expense of traveling was too great to justify them all in coming together whenever business needed attention. Fortunately, the local managers—such men as Carter, Meguiar, Settle, Morris, and Wheat—were first-class business men and greatly consecrated to the work. Enough of them were always on hand to make a quorum. At the first annual meeting as many as fifteen appeared and took part in the proceedings.

Mr. Carter was a devout man and a devoted Methodist, a prominent business man of Louisville, and a wise adviser. He left his impress upon Louisville Methodism. Mr. Meguiar was one of those staunch men who ring true to their convictions on all occasions, dependable, wise in counsel, ready to help financially whenever the need arose, and consecrated to the Church. In many respects Mr. Wheat was the opposite of his friend and colaborer, the executive head of the Board, but each understood the other, and each believed in the other's fidelity to the Church; and for many years they planned and labored

together in her interest, maintaining all the while a mutual friendship of the highest type. This trio of business men played an important part in the work of Church Extension for three quadrenniums. They were true men, laboring in a great cause.

The first annual report of the Corresponding Secretary was brief and to the point. He called attention to the fact that he had attended during the year twenty-one Conferences, had traveled nearly twenty thousand miles in twenty-two States, two Territories, the District of Columbia, and the Republic of Mexico, and had seen nearly all the country occupied by his Church except the Pacific Slope. He further added, that "at all of the Annual Conferences attended by the Secretary, and at a great many others, public meetings in the interest of Church Extension had been held, at which respectful and earnest attention was given to the speeches setting forth the methods and purposes of the Board, and some enthusiasm was excited."

As the assessment of fifty-one thousand one hundred and eighteen dollars made upon the Church for the first year had reached the Annual Conferences only a few months before the annual meeting of the Parent Board, there was, of course, no money in the treasury from that source. To meet some emergent issues in New Mexico about twenty-three hundred dollars had been raised by special collections and properly disbursed. Provision had been made for printing a series of Church Extension tracts, and an arrangement had been entered into with the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church for purchasing from it at most reasonable figures plans and specifications for new churches.

Already, attention has been called to the field work of the Corresponding Secretary, which was of equal importance to that of the office. He was confronted continually with the necessity of arousing interest in Church Extension work and keeping the entire Church informed on the subject. The thousands of preachers and tens of thousands of members needed to be reminded of the aims and purposes of the Board. It was not work that could be done once and dropped. Every year a campaign of education was necessary in order to bring the Church to realize the necessity for meeting the assessments. This was accomplished through the pulpit, the platform, mass meetings, parlor conferences, the religious press, and a literary bureau. Leaflets, maps, reports, and other forms of literature were printed by tens of thousands and scattered throughout the Church. The records of each succeeding year show that all the time the Board was gaining some ground and holding all that it had gained. If it did not advance with great rapidity at least it is true that it was never allowed to retreat. Year by year the assessment on the Church gradually increased and the percentage of collections grew larger. This made it possible to recommend greater appropriations without endangering the financial status of the Board. Once in a while it became necessary to put the brakes on some of the enthusiastic brethren who could always see larger resources in the future than in the present and were willing to go in debt on the mere hope that the liberality of the Church would increase fast enough to pay them out. There were experienced men on the Board who had learned that such a policy was not based on rational expectations but savored more of presumption than of faith.

Things in general ran very smoothly from year to year. The strictest economy was practiced by the Board in every respect. The office rent during the first six years ranged from ten to twelve dollars and a half per month, and for some time thereafter it did not exceed twenty dollars. All the furniture purchased during the first eight years, including a typewriter, cost only four hundred dollars and fifty cents. As to office service, the following paragraph from the Second Quadrennial report is interesting:

“The office work of the Board comprises an immense and constantly increasing correspondence, the arrangement and distribution through the mails and otherwise of all printed matter, the recording of the minutes of the meetings of the Board and of all its committees, the preparation of voluminous reports embodying numerous minute details, the keeping of a full set of double-entry books, and the filing of a great number of valuable papers. This work has kept the Secretary very busy when at home and made it necessary for the Board to provide him with clerical assistance, which has cost for the four years \$2,388.95, or an average of a little less than fifty dollars per month.”

The financing of the Board of Church Extension was a difficult task. It became evident that the assessments alone upon the Church would be inadequate to finance the work efficiently and that other methods for raising money must be adopted. The loan fund idea furnished an appealing solution to the difficulty, offering, as it did, a permanent fund always available and indestructible. Its many advantages caused the following section to be written into the original constitution:

“This Board shall have authority to raise and admin-

ister a loan fund, which shall be separate from funds raised for general distribution, and which shall be used only in loans on adequate security to be determined by the Board."

The adoption of the Constitution preceded by a few months the act of the Legislature incorporating the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, but it was not until after the addition of the first and only amendment to the Charter which was approved by the Governor on March 10, 1886, that the Constitution was amended by the insertion of a new Article VI. It will be seen from the following paragraph that Article VI, which the General Conference adopted May 17, 1886, merely enlarged the Constitution so as to bring it into conformity with the amendment to the Charter:

"ARTICLE VI. It shall be lawful for said Board to accept contributions to its funds from any person or persons capable of making the same, subject to annuities payable to the order of the person or persons making such donations, but all amounts so received shall be loaned by said Board on adequate security or securities, and the aggregate amount of annuities that the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed one-half of the annual interest receivable on the loans made by said Board."

At the session of the General Conference in 1886, the Woman's Department of the Board of Church Extension was formed and its constitution adopted. The constitution, consisting of three new articles designated as XI, XII, and XIII were inserted in the original constitution of the Board of Church Extension. They read as follows:

"ARTICLE XI. The Board of Church Extension shall organize a department to be known as 'The Woman's

Department of Church Extension,' the object of which shall be to collect funds by private efforts, personal solicitations, membership fees, donations, devises, and bequests, for purchasing and securing parsonages. All funds so collected shall be subject to the direction of the General and Local Boards of Church Extension for the object specified.

"ARTICLE XII. The officers of the Woman's Department shall be a General Secretary, to be appointed by the General Board; a Secretary and Treasurer for each Annual Conference; and a District Secretary for each presiding elder's district, to be appointed by the respective Conference Boards.

"ARTICLE XIII. The General Secretary for the Woman's Department shall conduct the correspondence of that part of the work, and furnish reports thereof to the Secretary of the General Board.

"The Secretary of this department for each Annual Conference shall organize Parsonage Societies in the various charges, and shall make reports of the work done in the Conference, both to the General Secretary of this department and to the Secretary of the Conference Board.

"The Treasurer of this department for each Annual Conference shall receive the funds of the Parsonage Societies within the Conference; of which fifty per cent shall be turned over to the General Board, and the remaining fifty per cent to the Conference Board.

"The District Secretaries shall aid the Conference Secretary of this department in organizing Parsonage Societies, and shall keep her informed of the work and needs within their respective districts.

"Donors to the funds of this department may give direction to their special contributions."

Parenthetically it may be stated that the new Article VI was inserted after Article V of the original constitution. The new Articles XI, XII, and XIII were made to follow the original Article IX, and Article X of the original constitution became Article XIV of the amended constitution. With the addition of these amendments the new constitution now contained fourteen articles.

During the first two quadrenniums the Board completed its organization, laid its financial policy on secure foundations, and established itself fully as an integral part of the connectional policy of the Church. At the beginning of the ninth year it found itself prepared to do the work assigned to it in a much larger way than ever before. With the momentum it had acquired, it was inevitable that it would now go forward with increasing rapidity.

The work became heavier and heavier each year. In the third quadrennium the Board found it necessary to hold four regular annual meetings, twelve stated quarterly meetings and five called meetings. Its Executive Committee met eleven times; its Committee on Loan Funds, twice; its Committee on Applications, fifteen times; and its Finance Committee, twenty-one times. Attendance upon these numerous meetings proved quite a tax, especially upon those members residing in Louisville, all of whom were daily engaged in active professional or business life.

The following report of the Committee on Church Extension to the General Conference of 1886 shows something of the high regard of our Church for the Board, even though it was still comparatively young:

“That the very marked success which has attended this new and aggressive feature of our Church work during

the past four years both indorses the wisdom of the last General Conference, which inaugurated it, and testifies to the efficiency of the management under whose direction and control its operations have since been conducted.

“Your committee respectfully suggests that any attempt to interfere with the practice that now prevails of dividing equally between the local and the Parent Boards the amount raised in each Annual Conference for Church Extension purposes would be harmful and unwise. There is good reason to believe that a larger amount is raised for general distribution by the existing method than could be done by any other means, and that any disturbance of it could only tend to lessen the interest that has been so generally excited in behalf of this new enterprise of the Church, and greatly to retard its growing prosperity.”

In the Episcopal Address that year (1886) Bishop Keener showed the amounts raised and expended during the previous quadrennium and commended both the Board and its Secretary. The Board of Church Extension had, by its energy and wise management, already turned the thought of the Church in the direction of church-building. Within four years it had confirmed fully the wisdom of the General Conference in its establishment and in the selection of its Managers and Secretary. Of necessity it required a little time to get fairly started, and to impress itself upon the attention and heart of the Church. Within the first four years it was instrumental in building five hundred and fifty-one churches and parsonages distributed throughout the bounds of our Church. The annual collection made for this purpose was equally divided between the Conference Boards and the General Board. The total sum raised by the Society was \$145,248.28, and

the total amount expended upon buildings was \$115,315.63.

The Tenth Annual report (1892) shows the viewpoint of the Secretary on the future of Church Extension as related to the pastors:

“After extended and close observation reaching over nearly ten years in this field of labor, I am thoroughly satisfied that the destiny of our work is in the hands of the preachers in charge, the pastors of the Church. If they will follow the directions of the Discipline and ‘take up a collection in every congregation annually for Church Extension,’ success is inevitable; if they do not, failure is an assured certainty. The most earnest pleading by the Board, the most piquant writing by our best editors, the most dashing campaign of the Conferences by secretaries, the employment of the apparently most apposite expedients will not avail anything like so much as the steady, earnest, systematic canvass of each pastoral charge by the preacher sent to serve it. We do not undervalue the service of bishops, boards, presiding elders, and editors, for there is much to be done by each of these, but to the hand-to-hand work of the pastor we look for the result so much to be desired.”

In the early years of the Board's history there were several troublesome problems of administration that arose repeatedly. These problems included the delinquent borrower, fire insurance on churches, the size of donations, and appeals by pastors to the Church at large outside the regular channels of Church Extension. Such questions were vexatious then and to a certain extent are still. A solution in every instance has not yet been reached that is satisfactory to all.

III

CHURCH EXTENSION LOAN FUNDS

ASSESSMENTS alone upon the Church were seen to be inadequate to finance the work of the Board efficiently. Other methods of raising money were necessary. The loan fund idea presented itself as a solution to the difficulty, offering a permanent fund always available and indestructible. It had many advantages. When the time came to prepare a constitution for adoption by the General Conference of 1882 the following section, designated as Article VII, was written into it:

“This Board shall have authority to raise and administer a loan fund, which shall be separate from funds raised for general distribution, and which shall be used only in loans on adequate security, to be determined by the Board.”

In the first annual report, this part of the work is strongly featured. It was believed that the Board had been charged with no more important duty than “to raise and administer a loan fund.” By the paragraph quoted above it was understood that the General Conference intended that no part of this fund should ever be donated for any purpose or used for current expenses, but that it should be preserved without diminution, a perpetual fund to be loaned to churches in aid of the objects of the Board.

Such a fund has proved especially useful from the consideration that a large proportion of the work we are called upon to do can be accomplished by temporary loans

which, after serving once, come back and then go again and repeat their work and continue thus to go and come, reproducing their blessings year after year.

Assured that early possession of this fund would greatly assist the work of the Board, it was ordered at the first meeting that of all funds derived from gifts, devises, and bequests, fifty per cent should be put into and become a part of the loan fund, unless otherwise directed by the donors, and that out of all moneys received from collections through the Annual Conferences for the first fiscal year, not less than twenty per cent should be transferred to the loan fund, after paying the salary of the Secretary and incidental expenses.

A by-law providing for a committee to secure and manage this fund was enacted and the committee appointed.

The same year that the Board of Church Extension was created the General Conference raised a "Committee on the Centenary of Methodism," which was to provide for a proper celebration of the Centennial of Methodism in 1884. This Committee brought in a report, which was adopted, providing for a great Centenary Collection of Two Million Dollars, to be applied to the causes of Education, Missions, and Church Extension. A central Centenary Committee was raised by the General Conference and appointed by the Bishops. This Committee immediately took action in response to which the Board of Church Extension passed the following resolution on May 12, 1883:

"Resolved, That this Board gratefully appreciates the proposal of the Centenary Committee of our Church to raise, by the close of 1884, the sum of \$500,000 in aid of

the Loan Fund of this Board, and will heartily unite with them in all efforts to secure it."

Our fathers believed strongly in the necessity for a large Loan Fund Capital. The goal fixed was worthy of their faith, worthy of our great Church, and worthy of the most generous gifts of our people.

In March, 1884, the Board determined that sums of five thousand dollars and upward, donated by one or more persons, might, by direction of the contributors, constitute a separate loan fund and be named by them. In accordance with this provision, it was particularly fitting that the first of these "living monuments," as the Corresponding Secretary designated them, should be created in honor of Bishop Kavanaugh, who had so recently died. Since then, a large number of these "memorial loan funds" have been established to honor and perpetuate the name of some designated person or persons.

Loan funds differ from all other forms of endowment in that the benefits derived from them continue to grow and expand in increasing proportion. The principal is loaned to churches and parsonages, the purpose being to give temporary aid. Contrast this with ordinary endowments, the principal of which is invested in stocks or loans to any responsible borrower, the interest only being used in carrying out the purposes of the gift. As an illustration, the following example is convincing. In five years a twenty-five-hundred-dollar loan fund, divided into five parts and loaned to five churches at four per cent interest, insures the building of ten churches, assisting them to the amount of seven thousand and fifteen dollars and sixty-one cents and at the same time increases the loan fund by five hundred and forty-one dollars and sixty-five cents.

The amendment to the Charter that was secured in March, 1886, provided for an increase in the loan funds on the annuity plan. Accordingly, as suggested heretofore, the Board inserted a new Article VI in the Constitution after Article V and advanced the numbering of remaining articles by one. Then, immediately after the provision in Article VII, "that the Board shall not involve itself in debt," it was recommended that these words be appended, "except as provided for in Article VI."

We see how this sacred money was made absolutely safe to those contributing it. This plan has proved to be one of the most attractive of all the methods devised for raising money. Those who are not able to get along without the income from their property may pay into the treasury of the Board an amount of money and receive from it in return therefor a certificate of annuity which obligates the Board to pay annually to the investor or designated beneficiary during life a sum not to exceed an agreed per cent of the amount involved, provided that upon the death of the beneficiary the payment of interest shall cease and the principal shall become the absolute property of the Board.

The annuitant receives his income in regular installments, and the money is at work building churches, and the Kingdom of God is being spread abroad on the earth. As an illustration of the early leaflets dealing with annuities the one reproduced below is convincing:

"Would you like to make a good investment? One that will be perfectly safe? That will pay a better rate of interest than any other safe, long-time investment? One that will give you no trouble except to go to the nearest bank every six months and collect your money? That

will relieve you from ever having to reinvest your capital?

“Would you like to make an investment that, while it offers all the advantages named above, will at the same time put your money to work for the Savior? One that will help to build churches or parsonages while it supports you to the day of your death!

“If you would, invest one hundred or five hundred or five thousand dollars in an annuity certificate of this Board. It is a contract pledging the Board and all its assets—mortgages on real estate—to pay you the semi-annual interest agreed upon as long as you live, with the understanding that at your death the principal shall vest absolutely in this Board, to constitute a perpetual loan fund; and if amounting to \$5,000 or more, to bear your name or any other that you may give it—an everlasting memorial.”

Now we have many such funds, and the donors have the pleasure of seeing their money at work for Christ, while they are assured of a certain income from it as long as they live.

Is not that better than to lend your money to a neighbor who may break? Or to invest in bonds that may be repudiated? Or to lend upon a mortgage and have to hire a lawyer to enforce it? It is better than a government bond. It is better than a will.

The rate per cent paid to an annuitant must depend upon his age in each case. Interest is always paid promptly on or before the day it becomes due, and without demand or reminder from the annuitant.

The form of certificate is shown on the following page.

At the Annual Meeting in 1887 the loan funds were much talked of and the whole system critically examined.

Board of Church Extension
of the
Methodist Episcopal Church, South
ANNUITY BOND

No. 000

\$ 0000.00

WHEREAS John Doe
of Newark in the County of Essex
and State of Massachusetts has this day contributed to the BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH, a corporation created and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Kentucky, U. S. A., and located at Louisville, in said State, the principal sum of

\$4.00/100 Dollars (\$ 0000.00),
subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and

WHEREAS, said Corporation has, by authority of Section I of the amendment to its Charter, a copy of which is hereto appended (*), accepted said contribution, subject to such terms and conditions,

Now, Therefore, said BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION, in consideration of the premises, and for other good and valuable considerations, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged by the aforesaid Board of Church Extension, hereby promises and agrees to pay an annuity of

\$4.00/100 Dollars (\$ 0000.00),
to be paid to John Doe and Mary Doe, his wife, or the
survivors beneficiary as
the first installment of \$4.00/100 Dollars
(\$ 00.00) to be paid January 1 - 1940
and subsequent installments of \$4.00/100 Dollars
(\$ 00.00) each, to be paid every six months
thereafter during the life of the said beneficiary and all payments terminating with the death of said beneficiary and at which time said contribution shall be and become absolute and unconditional, and said BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION be released from all obligations incurred under this agreement.

It is further understood and agreed that said contribution shall be and remain a part of the Loan Fund Capital of said BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION, and shall be known as

Mary Doe Memorial
Loan Fund, and the net income from said Fund, after the annuity obligation hereinbefore mentioned shall have been discharged, shall be used for church and parsonage
building perpetually

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has caused these Presents to be signed by its President and attested by its Corresponding Secretary, and its corporate Seal to be affixed hereto, this

31st day of February A. D. 1940

BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH

Attest:

By

XXXXXX

XXXXXX
President

Secretary

* Section 1. That it shall be lawful for said Board of Church Extension to accept contributions to the funds of said Board from any person or persons capable of making the same subject to annuity payable to the order of the person or persons making such donations, but all income so received shall be loaned by said Board on strict security of mortgage, and the agreements and notes that the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed one-third of the annual interest receivable on the loans made by said Board.

Resolutions were adopted urging the organization of special Conference loan funds and of parsonage loan funds. The utility of loans as compared with donations, the practicability and method of collecting promptly at maturity sums loaned to churches, the best means for increasing these funds and adding others to them, were special points concerning which information was sought.

On no part of Church Extension work was more energy expended than upon the development of the loan fund idea. By pen, from the pulpit, from the platform, by private interview, money was solicited. In every annual report the subject was prominently mentioned. Well-laid campaigns were planned and executed. At one time a canvass of twenty-one days was made by Bishop Galloway and the Corresponding Secretary in the interest of the Paine Loan Fund, during which fifteen of the principal towns and cities of the State of Mississippi were visited. Another canvass of twenty-seven days in the interest of the Andrew Loan Fund was made by Bishop Hargrove and the Corresponding Secretary during which thirty-three points in the State of Alabama were visited. At all these places meetings were held, addresses delivered, and collections taken.

It was especially appropriate that at his death the Board should establish the David Morton Loan Fund. Such a memorial, added to his Church Extension accomplishments, will serve to perpetuate the good work of building churches and parsonages which he started.

In April, 1891, a resolution was adopted declaring that our people be requested to co-operate with the Secretaries in an earnest effort to raise the cash capital of the Loan Funds to the sum of \$100,000 during that year.

The pressure of hard times which comes to our country periodically interferes with collections upon the assessments, and the payment by borrowers of the interest and principal of our loans. At times of financial stringency the policy of the Board toward debtor churches has been one of leniency.

Wherever a willingness and evident purpose to pay manifested itself, care has been exercised to avoid bringing any pressure to bear that seemed likely to cause distress or embarrassment. In some instances, however, there has been exhibited a degree of indifference to these obligations that has been exceedingly trying. After exhausting every resource of persuasion and warning, a case arose as early as 1896 when the Loan Fund and Executive Committees felt constrained to concur in directing that suit be brought. This was finally done—the first time in the history of the Board—as the last and only means of preventing the loss of a portion of the trust funds committed to our keeping. As a result the people busied themselves in an effort to raise the money they needed to pay the debt.

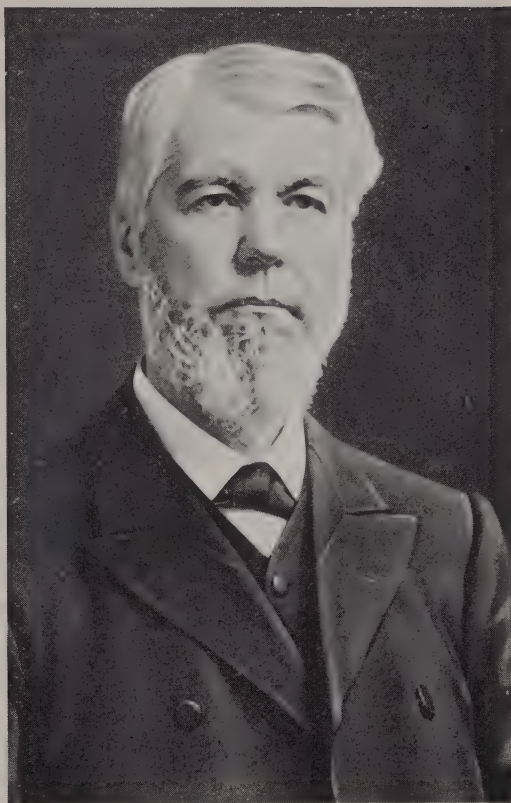
In 1897 our rules provided that every application to this Board for aid should be approved by either a Conference or City Board of Church Extension, or by the Bishop in charge. In early practice very few applications were presented to the Conference Boards at their annual sessions, authority to approve them being in most cases delegated to the Presidents and Secretaries of these Boards. Such approval did not represent the collective judgment of the members of the Boards, and furnished no means whatsoever of determining the relative importance of the sev-

eral applications presented. Indorsements by the Bishops failed at the same point.

Two years later (1899) the Board agreed that applications for donations or loans, when properly signed and indorsed, were to be sent to the Secretary of the Conference Board of Church Extension for compliance with the rule, that every application for aid hereafter presented for consideration at the annual meetings of the General Board must first receive the approval of the Board of Church Extension of the Conference from which it came, and such approval must be given at a regular meeting of said Board or its Executive Committee, held in the month of March. Said Boards or Committees were to consider all the applications from their respective Conferences, and forward such as they approved, so as to reach the Board's office at Louisville, Kentucky, by April 1, of each year. Each application so approved must have the action of the Conference Board written thereon, certified by the President and Secretary, and all the applications from a given Conference must be graded and marked by the Conference Board in the order of their relative importance. This rule did not apply in cases of unforeseen calamity occurring too late for compliance with its provisions. The Corresponding Secretary was thereby directed not to put on the calendar any application failing to conform to this rule.

Applications presented for consideration at meetings other than the Annual Meeting had to be approved by the Executive Committee of the Conference Church Extension Board, or Bishop in charge of the Conference from which it came.

It has always been highly desirable that the required approval of all applications from a Conference be made at



REV. P. H. WHISNER, D.D.
SECRETARY, 1898-1905

one time, following a careful comparison of them. The rule requiring Conference Boards, or judicious committees appointed by them, to meet as late as March 1, and carefully consider and pass upon all applications from their respective Conferences, and mark them in the order of their importance, has helped to compass the end sought and greatly aid in making a judicious distribution of the funds. In some cases they graded all applications number one, evidently in the effort to impress the Parent Board with their special importance. If it had been possible to provide for every need presented, this might have been of some service, but knowing that provision could be made for only a part of the demands it was essential to know which was the most important part.

In 1908 the Secretary, Dr. McMurry, felt it was a matter of great importance in a Connectional Church like ours that there should be not only a unification of policy, but an opportunity to sift thoroughly the methods of work in vogue looking to the adoption of the wisest and best plan. It was

"Resolved, therefore, That the Secretary of the Board be authorized to call a meeting of the Conference Boards of Church Extension at such time and place as should be designated by the Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, for a conference of not more than two days upon this important department of church work, provided the expense of travel of the representatives in such conferences would be met by the Conference Boards of Church Extension."

Acting under the authority of this resolution, the information was communicated to the several Conference Boards, and a request made that each appoint one or

more representatives to the meeting. A large majority of the Conference Boards responded, and since that time there have been biennial meetings of Conference Board representatives in Louisville. A better understanding, a heartier co-operation and a more enthusiastic service has resulted from the deliberations at these meetings. The great need of our work was to stir the Conference Boards to greater activity. It was thought at first that the meeting would be held in January, but many of the representatives of the Conference Boards expressed a desire to meet at a time and place where it would be convenient for them to witness the work of the General Board in annual session, hence the date and place of the meeting.

As time went on there was a marked increase in the number of applications for aid in building churches of a costly grade. It was stated time and again from the rostrum and through authorized publications that our branch of service was created for the purpose of aiding in building such necessary structures as the local congregations were unable to erect without assistance from abroad. The Discipline provided that all churches should be plain and decent. A congregation which desired to gratify its architectural and decorative tastes beyond the limits thus prescribed was to do so at its own expense.

The law of the Church further provided that no building should be commenced until a committee, appointed by the Quarterly Conference, had made an estimate of the amount necessary to build, and three-fourths of the estimated cost had been secured. Some prominent men expressed the opinion that this Board ought not to bestow its limited resources in aid of enterprises undertaken in disregard to the letter and spirit of the law. They ques-

tioned whether it would not be wise to adopt a rule that provided against the granting of donations in aid of buildings estimated to cost more than ten thousand dollars, and against donating to any single enterprise more than one thousand dollars, or more than one-fifth the cost of the building. The Board was then, as now, a helping organization and not a financing organization.

In several instances the Board has been seriously embarrassed in the collection of loans, growing out of the dedication of churches indebted to it without any provision being made at the time for the payment of debts. When an impression has thus been created that all debts are provided for, it becomes extremely difficult to raise money with which to pay the debt later. It has been earnestly recommended that our Bishops and all others called upon for such service will refuse to dedicate any church until suitable provision has been made for debts which it owes to this Board.

It was felt that the best use of borrowed money could be realized when it was returned to the Board, together with interest, in a relatively short time and reloaned to some other congregation that needed help in the erection of a church. To do this it became necessary to pay promptly the money that became due and to provide for the payment of interest and installments on the principal at shorter intervals. At this time (1897), a rule was adopted making all future loans returnable in semiannual payments instead of annual, as heretofore.

In many cases after the Board had approved an application and notified a church that a loan or a donation had been granted, the church did not meet the conditions necessarily accompanying the payment of the grant. It was

unfortunate in these cases that the intended recipient was not prepared to comply with the conditions and receive the money.

Parenthetically, it may be stated that the first grant of the General Board was paid November 11, 1882, to our church, at Socorro, New Mexico; and that on November 9, 1896, just fourteen years later, a payment to our church, at Fresno, California, completed the first half million dollars that was paid by the General Board to aid in the erection of our churches. During the fiscal year 1896-97, the total collections on assessments from the beginning crossed the \$700,000 line, and the aggregate receipts from all sources from the beginning, including loans collected, reached \$1,000,000.

At the solicitation of the Board the General Conference (1894) amended certain Questions in the routine of Conference business for the purpose of eliciting information that would make it possible to ascertain not only the number and value of our churches and parsonages, but also the number of societies without church edifices and of charges without parsonages. At the close of Dr. Morton's career it appears that we had in our Connection 17,401 organized congregations, with but 14,119 houses of worship, and 4,801 pastoral charges with but 3,618 parsonages.

While the total value of our houses of worship was stated at \$21,591,150, and of parsonages at \$3,922,384, it was unfortunate that we had no means of ascertaining how much of this value belonged to others in the shape of liens and debts. While Wilbur F. Barclay was serving as Acting Corresponding Secretary he suggested that the Board memorialize the General Conference to add ques-

tions which in the future would elicit this important information. Also, he prepared a memorandum suggesting a few slight but important changes in other paragraphs of the Discipline that bore upon our work.

These facts show a portion of the great work of the Board of Church Extention during its early history, extending through the entire administration of its first Secretary and the first year of Dr. Whisner's administration; yet it has not been possible here to set forth much of the work that was accomplished during these early years to bring about better business methods among our people in their church work, to secure greater uniformity and safety in regard to the titles to our property, to promote the spirit of liberality among our people, to improve the character of church buildings, and greatly to extend the influence of the Church by securing buildings where the local congregations were unable to do so. It offered an inviting field of usefulness to our people of means who were willing to add to its funds. It proposed on the one hand to encourage the use of all available resources to secure suitable churches, and on the other to discourage the making of debts that would prove an embarrassment.

During the administration of Dr. Whisner, the second Corresponding Secretary of the Board, \$71,210.09 was added to the Loan Fund Capital, thus increasing it from \$158,792.50 to \$230,002.59.

IV

CHURCH EXTENSION LOAN FUNDS

(CONTINUED)

WHEN the Board assembled for the last time before the dawn of the Twentieth Century, there remained only seven of the original twenty-five members who had continuously sustained their relationship to that body from the time of its organization in 1882—Presley Meguiar, its President; the four elder Bishops, namely, Bishops Keener, Wilson, Granbery, and Hargrove; and Drs. Harris and Vandeventer. The last two named offered a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, suggesting 1900 as an especially favorable and proper time to make increased efforts in soliciting contributions for the great cause of Church Extension. In turn the Board adopted a resolution calling for an earnest effort to be made through our Conference Boards to raise the whole amount of assessment to the Annual Conferences for this purpose, and calling for the secretaries of the Conference Boards to be informed of the action.

DEPARTMENT OF SAVINGS FUND FOR CHURCH BUILDING

In 1906 a new department was established by the Board to serve a definite purpose. It was known as the Department of Savings Fund for Church Building and was to be used for the safe keeping of funds that were being accumulated for the erection of churches and parsonages. It had in it the promise of great good to the Church. Education among our people at the point of anticipating their

needs in the matter of church building was imperative. The total receipts from July 13, 1906, the date of the first deposit, to the close of the fiscal year, March 30, 1907, were \$3,471.29, including interest earned.

When, in 1882, as Chairman of the Centennial Committee, Bishop E. R. Hendrix, proposed as one of the objects, the raising of a \$500,000 Loan Fund for Church Extension, Bishop Keener responded, "That can be done," and to this end the Board steadily set its face.

At the close of our fiscal year 1913 Dr. McMurry was able to report the Loan Fund Capital of the Board had reached \$501,387.16, which was an increase for the year of \$66,222.66. This more than one-half million dollars did not represent half the need. Even though every effort was made to discourage churches from presenting applications where there seemed to be a possibility of getting along without aid, applications came before the Board asking for a total of \$311,400 simply in *loans* to churches and parsonages.

The year that closed in 1913 was decidedly the best of the thirty-one that the Board had experienced in gathering these funds. Several special contributions came to the office without any preliminary correspondence or any direct request from the Secretary, or other solicitations. This was due to the campaign of education that Dr. McMurry had been conducting for several years. The Secretary expressed himself as believing confidently that such contributions would increase in number and size if the need were kept prominently before the Church.

By this time (1913) the strain of Dr. McMurry's office made him feel that the time had come when the Board should consider the advisability of employing a special

Secretary to give his entire time to the Loan Fund business. That portion of an assistant's time which was not needed in the office could be most profitably spent in giving personal attention to such existing loans as required it, and in following up prospects for contributions to the Loan Fund Capital. The weight of Dr. McMurry's duties were expressed in his own words: "The demands upon the Secretary for this field work in the interest of existing loans and the increase of the Loan Fund Capital are such that the one Secretary charged with the entire responsibility of the office can scarcely make a beginning. There are at this time urgent calls from pastors and others from a large number of places, and some of them of long standing, where individuals are interested in the Loan Fund proposition, and desire a conference with a representative of the Board, looking to the making of contributions, to which I have been unable to respond because there are not enough days in the year to do the work, and properly care for that part of the business in the office demanding the personal attention of the Secretary. Cases are not rare where funds are applied in other directions or the interested party changes his mind before time can be commanded to go in person and close up the proposition. Feeling this situation keenly, I cannot do less than call your attention to it. The possibilities of such an office with the right man in it would be difficult to estimate.

"It may be interesting to you to know that annuities are paid on \$92,044.07 of the total Loan Fund Capital. The average annuity paid on this amount is five and four-fifths per cent."

On May 2, 1914, the Board authorized the Secretary to secure the services of a well-qualified man whose chief

CHURCH EXTENSION LOAN FUNDS

duty should be to look after the Loan Fund already established and to secure additional loan funds. Accordingly, Rev. D. B. Price, a member of the Montana Conference, and a member of the Board since the preceding session of the General Conference, was selected as Assistant to the Corresponding Secretary and entered upon his duties January 1, 1915.

RECEIPTS OF THE BOARD FOR ONE QUADRENNIUM 1914-1918

Largely through his personal management, with the co-operation of the Executive Committee, the Secretary, Dr. McMurry, secured and brought into the treasury of this Board during the quadrennium 1914-1918 a sum of money nearly equal to the amount brought into it during the previous thirty-two years of the Board's existence. The exact figures are as follows:

Receipts for first 32 years. \$560,582.63

Receipts for next four years 545,743.81

A difference of only . . . \$ 14,838.82

The achievement of the above results, at a time when the World War was in progress, was extraordinary, to say the least. The Auditing Committee presented an appropriate resolution, which was adopted by a rising vote of thanks, commending Dr. McMurry for this outstanding accomplishment.

INTEREST ON LOANS

Believing that the greater purpose of the Loan Fund was not simply to make safe investments, but to help the

greatest number of churches possible, a new proviso was made in 1915. It was provided that thereafter all loans should bear six per cent interest, and that the contract should contain the provision that at the end of six months after interest was due and unpaid, this overdue interest should be added to the principal, and should bear six per cent interest from the time it was added to the principal. But should the interest be paid at any time prior to six months after maturity, then no interest should be charged on interest, and the interest on the loan should not exceed four per cent; except in cases where the principal of the loan was not paid when due—in all such cases interest should be six per cent and compounded as outlined above.

GENERAL CALLS UPON THE CHURCH

Only once during the first thrity-three years of the history of organized church extension work in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was there any general call upon the Church for contributions to its Loan Fund Capital. In 1907 the members of the Board indorsed by individual communication a Loan Fund Day proposition which was observed, not very generally, but it brought in returns amounting to \$6,024.19. The campaign leading up to this day was not extensive, but out of it came much of the interest that produced the increase in our Loan Fund Capital during the next few years.

REVOLVING FUND

Prior to 1928 the work of the Board was done by administering two funds, the Donation Fund and the Loan Fund. What was known as the Donation Fund was the amount raised year by year from the Assessments on the several Annual Conferences. The Loan Fund was

gathered together by gifts, bequests and from the Centenary. The Constitution of the Board, Article VIII, gave it authority to raise and administer a Loan Fund, which should be held separate from funds raised by general distribution, and which should be used only in loans on adequate security to be determined by the Board.

The rapid growth of our cities and the importance of building chapels and churches in communities where the need for aid was temporary seemed to Dr. Ellis, who was Secretary then, to make it wise for the Board to constitute a new fund, which for want of a better name he called the *Revolving Fund*.

After careful consideration by the members of the Board at its Annual Meeting in May, 1928, the following recommendations were unanimously adopted:

"That the Secretary be instructed to take such steps as are necessary to put such a plan into operation at the earliest date possible.

"That the General Secretary be authorized and instructed to go before the Commission on Budget before the convening of the next General Conference and request an increase in the Assessment for the Board of Church Extension, and that the said increase, if granted, be used in helping to build up the Revolving Fund."

In conformity with the instructions of the Board appearing above, the Secretary brought the whole matter before the Executive Committee on May 31, 1928, and the following regulations were adopted:

"No part of the regular loan fund is to be used in making loans or to build up the Revolving Fund.

"The Revolving Fund is to be built up from the funds realized by the Board of Church Extension from the Assessments on the several Annual Conferences or from gifts

and bequests, the Board itself determining when an application reaches it whether to grant a donation or to grant a loan from the Revolving Fund.

“Whenever the Board or one of its Committees makes a grant from the Donation Fund as a Revolving Fund Loan, the amount of the grant is to be transferred from the Donation Fund to the Capital of the Revolving Fund, and when repaid shall remain as a part of the Capital of the Revolving Fund.

“The time that the loan shall run before the church begins to make repayment of the principal and the interest is to be determined at the time the loan is placed, but in no circumstances is the loan to continue without repayment for a longer term than five years.

“The usual security required in the case of loans from the regular loan fund shall be required in the case of a loan from the Revolving Fund.”

APPROPRIATIONS TO CITY AND DISTRICT BOARDS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES

At the Annual Meeting in 1924, Dr. Ellis suggested such modification as was necessary to allow lump sum appropriations to City and District Boards and Annual Conferences. This suggestion did not contemplate the abandonment of methods then in use. The Secretary was requested to present later a detailed program for the administration of appropriations which were made by this Board in conjunction with the auxiliary boards involved. In 1925 action was taken calling for these grants to be placed under the following directions:

“(1) That all such appropriations be divided and apportioned to the purchase of lots or the erection of

Churches or Parsonages within the City, District, or Annual Conference to which the grant was made, by the Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, the Bishop in charge, and the auxiliary Board to which the grant was made.

“(2) That the rules and regulations of the General Board for the placing of money under its grants be observed.

“(3) The City, District or Annual Conference Board of Church Extension, when the appropriation is to an Annual Conference, shall guarantee the repayment of all loans made under this rule.”

INVESTMENT OF LOAN FUND CAPITAL

Organized Church Extension work has passed through twelve quadrenniums and a half of eventful history, and much has been accomplished. The announcement at the Annual Meeting of 1913 that the \$500,000 mark had been passed was greeted with applause, and strong ground was taken by the Board looking to an aggressive campaign for another One-half Million Dollars.

Since 1913, the increase has been very marked. Contributions from the Centenary and other sources brought the Loan Fund Capital of the Board to \$3,118,370.34 by the close of its fiftieth year.

These Loan Funds are ever increasing. By a process of revolution, they carry their benefits to churches needing assistance, returning with added power to go forth again with larger benefits. The funds, themselves, remain unexhausted and imperishable. Whatever may be said of other investments, here, by every token, money becomes a moral force and immortal. It works forever, for God and for humanity.

Loan Funds commend themselves to the favorable judgment of the thoughtful and appeal to business sagacity. In its use it is not consumed, but increases, while the churches so helped are developed in sturdy independence. Donations may foster in the recipients a spirit of dependence, a sort of medicancy, disastrous to that independent self-respect so necessary to a strong spiritual church.

There is no more important phase in Church Extension work than that of the Loan Funds. The large increase of these funds is the greatest need of our Church in her Church Extension work.

No man of wealth can do a nobler thing, or use his substance to better purpose, or honor those dear to him in a more effective way, than to establish such a Loan Fund in memory of a loved one. Nor can a church or conference do a better thing than thus to perpetuate the memory of a faithful servant of God who has wrought for the Kingdom and passed to his reward. A conference is peculiarly honored in the opportunity of creating a Loan Fund as a Memorial to one of her own sons whose name and work, as a servant of God and the Church, has become the common inheritance of the entire Church.

Loan Funds cannot be donated. The Constitution of the Board not only provides for the creation and administration of Loan Funds, but requires that these Funds shall be loaned only on adequate security, and to aid in church and parsonage building.

THE SEVERAL KINDS OF LOAN FUNDS

The Loan Funds of the Board are known as Annuity Loan Funds, Memorial Loan Funds, Parsonage Loan

CHURCH EXTENSION LOAN FUNDS

Funds, Conference Board Loan Funds, District and City Loan Funds, Sunday School Loan Fund, Revolving Loan Fund, and the General Loan Fund. During the fiscal year 1930-1931 three new named Loan Funds were established and in 1931-1932 one other was added. The Loan Fund Capital of the Board at the close of the fiscal year in 1932 showed a net increase for the year of \$43,569.78.

The increase in the Loan Fund Capital during the administration of each of the Secretaries is as follows:

Rev. David Morton, D.D....	\$ 158,792.50
Rev. P. H. Whisner, D.D....	71,210.09
Rev. W. F. McMurry, D.D...	876,323.85
Rev. H. A. Boaz, D.D.....	388,237.40
Rev. S. H. C. Burgin, D.D...	456,379.90
Rev. T. D. Ellis, D.D.....	1,167,426.60

The large increase in the Loan Funds between 1918 and 1923 was due in part to receipts from the Centenary.

ANNUITY LOAN FUNDS

Some of the benefits of the Annuity Loan Funds are:

The INCOME is: 1. Fixed, 2. Generous, 3. Sure, 4. Semiannual, 5. Continues through life, 6. Not dependent on earnings or profits or state of business.

The INVESTMENT is: 1. Safe, 2. Wisely handled, 3. Carefully guarded, 4. Held as a sacred trust, 5. Never put at hazard, 6. Nontaxable, 7. Subject to no legal fees, 8. Finally settled without a cent of executor's or counsel's or court charges.

It is simpler, easier, and more certain than a legacy or bequest. Wills are often contested, sometimes broken and bequests set aside; estates may be badly managed, must

go into courts, and legal measures are costly, and in the end a testator's purpose may be thwarted. The annuity bond is subject to none of these expenses, delays, and uncertainties. Annuities are also paid on two lives, as husband and wife, mother and daughter, father and son, etc.

The Secretary will receive the money and will return therefor an Annuity Bond properly executed. Any amount from \$100 upward is received.

MEMORIAL LOAN FUNDS

It is provided also that Loan Funds may be established in the name of those whose memory it is desired to honor and perpetuate. These Memorial Loan Funds become in a peculiar sense living monuments, more lasting than brass or granite, more precious than gold or silver. Unlike all other monuments, they are imperishable, everlasting, going forth to help and bless mankind in the highest possible sense.

Next to the longing for immortality, which God himself has planted in every human breast, is a desire to perpetuate our own names or the names of those we love and honor. The pyramids of Egypt; the statues, arches, and columns of Rome; the splendid temples of Greece; the incomparable mausoleums of India, all testify to the strength and universality of this desire. But the efforts of men to defy the universal law of decay and forgetfulness have been in vain. Memorials of stone and brass enter upon a career of disintegration from the moment they are finished and set up. Wind and rain, the changing seasons, earthquakes and storms, fire and vandal hands are the common enemies of all. The most sanguine



REV. W. F. McMURRY, D.D.
(Now Bishop McMurry)
SECRETARY, 1906-1917

builder of monuments has never yet produced a memorial which would either withstand the ravages of time, or increase in strength with the passing of years. Preservation is all that is ever hoped for, and that comes only with unremitting care and attention on the part of the generations that follow—even then, only in a partial sense.

It is the distinction and glory of our Memorial Loan Funds that they are strong at every point where other monuments are weak. Here is something of a material nature, that has in it the quality of life. It is a perpetual source of benefaction, an active, perpetual, and perpetuating force for good of the very highest type. The Loan Fund goes forth on errands of mercy and helpfulness, to serve mankind in such a way as to bring humanity into communion with God and our Savior, and returns with increased power for usefulness.

The activity and usefulness of these funds are beautifully illustrated by Bishop H. C. Morrison: "It never wearies in well-doing. Ever giving, yet never exhausted; toiling ever, yet never tired; a sort of everlasting benediction; an immortal Good Samaritan, with wine and oil and bandages for the bleeding and helpless churches of the land. Going to the West, it fortifies a point; returning to the East, it repairs a breach in the wall. It leaves joy and gladness in its pathway. It is a sort of financial angel flying through mid-heaven preaching the everlasting Gospel. Every dollar that goes into its treasury becomes imperishable. It lives for all time, and lives for God. If you would make your money immortal, cast it here. It will work on and on after you have ceased to work, and will come to you with exceeding increase in eternity."

The Memorial Loan Fund is more than a memorial.

Vain indeed would be its mission, were it but to tell the tale that somebody somewhere had money and gave it away.

CONFERENCE LOAN FUNDS

In accord with the action of the Board meeting at Memphis in 1909, and the action of the General Conference in 1910 (see *Discipline* 1930, Par. 507), the Conferences have been urged to establish Conference Loan Funds. By reference to the table on pages 190 and 191 it will be seen that several Conference Loan Funds have been established. These Loan Funds are administered through the general office in the same manner as other Loan Funds, except that the Conference Boards have the exclusive right to choose the churches to which the grants shall be made, and make the grants thereto. Much of the money now given in donations might be granted in the form of loans, and thus a Conference Loan Fund started.

A Conference may establish a Memorial Loan Fund in honor of one of its members.

DISTRICT AND CITY LOAN FUNDS

Paragraphs 508 and 509 of the *Discipline* of 1930 provides for the organization of District and City Boards of Church Extension, and paragraph 510 reveals the following provision:

“These auxiliary organizations shall, wherever practicable, establish Loan Funds, which shall be administered through the office of the General Board in the interest of church-building within the Annual Conference, city, or presiding elder’s district represented. The interest earned by such Loan Fund may be used as donations, to assist needy congregations in building houses of worship, if so

desired, and the principal loaned within the territory represented, if there is demand for it, and the security is such as the General Board can approve."

In accord with this provision the Abilene and Vernon Districts of the Northwest Texas Conference, the Dyersburg District of the Memphis Conference, the Joplin District of the Southwest Missouri Conference, and the Chickasha District of the West Oklahoma Conference have established District Loan Funds which are being administered through this Board.

The General Board also administers the Memphis (City) Loan Fund on behalf of that City Church Extension Board. The Lithgow Loan Fund is administered by the General Board on behalf of the City of Louisville, and the income from it is donated to the churches of Louisville.

It is hoped that many such Loan Funds may be established throughout our connection and placed in the hands of this Board to be loaned *exclusively* to churches within the cities or districts creating the loan funds.

The General Board emphasizes the importance of organizing City Boards of Church Extension after the Chattanooga Plan. A pamphlet has been published showing this plan in detail, and may be had for the asking from the general offices in Louisville.

Under the direction of the Board of Church Extension there have been prepared suggestive constitutions for District and City Boards of Church Extension, copies of which may be secured, without charge, by writing to the office of the Board at 1115 Fourth Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.

Several tables appear on pages 190 to 197 giving important information about our loans.

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SPECIAL FUNDS AND APPEALS

THE extensive travel of the Corresponding Secretary during the first year of his administration gave him the opportunity to familiarize himself more thoroughly with the work of the Church within the territory of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to present the cause of Church Extension to the many Annual Conferences and other public meetings attended, to solicit funds with which to defray the first current expenses of the office and to secure money and pledges for the special work in behalf of our cause in New Mexico.

With absolute unanimity the Church accepted the plan of the General Conference for Church Extension and proposed in good faith to give it a fair trial.

The peculiar condition and pressing necessities of our work in New Mexico induced the Board to make a special appeal for \$3,000 in its behalf, responses to which brought into the treasury before June 1, 1883, about \$2,448.80. All of this was used for the specific object intended and resulted in securing to us a church at Socorro valued at \$2,000, another at Albuquerque worth \$2,500, and the Las Vegas Seminary (within whose walls is an excellent chapel) estimated at \$7,000. The respective amounts donated to these three churches were \$500 to Socorro, \$500 to Albuquerque and \$2,000 to the Las Vegas Seminary. The hope was manifested at the first annual meet-

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ing of the Board that the unpaid balance of the \$3,000 sought would be given promptly by individuals, and thus obviate the necessity of taking it from the general treasury.

It should be a matter of general interest to know the extent to which the various conferences responded with their substance to this first appeal for a special donation fund to be used in New Mexico. Much of the money was paid to the Secretary at the Conference sessions, and the balance was remitted by mail or sent by private hands. Names of donors, whenever known, were entered on the Secretary's book under the heads of their respective Annual Conferences. A statement follows showing the amounts received from September 7, 1882, to April 10, 1883, and reported to the first annual meeting of the Board:

From Kentucky Conference	\$ 45 00
From Louisville Conference	135 00
From Missouri Conference	161 00
From Western Conference	11 00
From Southwest Missouri Conference	90 00
From Western Virginia Conference	40 00
From Tennessee Conference	61 00
From Holston Conference	45 00
From Virginia Conference	225 00
From Mississippi Conference	25 00
From South Carolina Conference	138 00
From Baltimore Conference	40 00
From Northwest Texas Conference	20 00
From Memphis Conference	10 00
From Montana Conference	18 00
From North Georgia Conference	252 75
From Alabama Conference	36 00
From North Alabama Conference	110 00
From South Georgia Conference	109 00
From North Mississippi Conference	25 25

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From North Carolina Conference	200 00
From St. Louis Conference	40 00
From Arkansas Conference	10 00
From West Texas Conference	10 00
From Florida Conference	5 00
From Louisiana Conference	275 00

Total\$2,137 00

Within a few weeks prior to May 12, 1883, Broadway Church, Louisville Conference, had contributed \$14.30 and Rev. William Alexander of the same conference had directed his gift of \$300 intended originally for church building in China to be transferred to this account.

* At the very first meeting of the Board in June, 1882, the \$51,118 that was assessed for Church Extension upon the Church at large, was divided among the Conferences upon the basis of the missionary assessment. To this, no dissent was heard, but rather the assurance was given by nearly every Conference that the amount would be raised and paid by the time of its approaching session. At its second annual meeting the Board fixed the assessment for the ensuing Conference year at \$66,000, and to this an equally cordial assent was given.

The *centennial offerings* of our Church for 1884 amounted in all to the sum of \$1,375,000, nearly all of which was given for local objects. Only a small sum was consecrated to the foreign missionary work. The College of Bishops therefore suggested, in view of the state of the missionary treasury, that centenary offerings should be extended through the year 1885, and be confined to Foreign Missions and to Church Extension.

SPECIAL APPEALS

Special appeals for aid from the Board have been numerous and varied. Space can be given only to a few, and the account of these must be condensed as much as possible.

PRIOR TO 1897. At meetings prior to 1897 the Board had authorized special appeals to be made for \$5,000 to assist a church at Osaka, Japan; \$3,000 to aid in building thirty churches in Indian Mission Conference; and \$3,000 for two churches needed by the Cubans in and near Tampa, and one in Key West, Florida. Money received from the Birthday Band and other donations for the specific purpose, aggregating \$1,720, was paid to the Board of Missions for the Osaka Church. Liberal donations to the same object which did not pass through the hands of the Board aided in making that enterprise a success. It was possible to secure a good church, well located, with a comfortable parsonage on the same lot, without leaving a debt.

The special collections for use in the Indian Mission work amounted to \$1,836.37. This small sum, invested in a destitute but promising field secured the erection of nineteen cheap but comfortable houses of worship that would not otherwise have been built. Our Church has never made a better investment, nor in any other instance received as large a return for so moderate an outlay.

It was thought best, by those on the spot, not to undertake the building of more than two Cuban churches in Florida at this time, so our energies were concentrated upon those at Key West and Ybor City, a suburb of Tampa.

GALVESTON DISASTER. On receipt of the news

of the loss of our church property on the Texas coast by the storm of September 8, 9, 1900, a call was issued from the Louisville office for special contributions with which to aid our people in that region to restore the churches that had been wrecked.

In response to appeals that were made from the central office, and through collections taken at some of the Annual Conferences, we received \$6,661.50, of which we sent \$840 to damaged churches on the mainland, leaving \$5,821.50 in our treasury for Galveston; \$3,984.79 was received from other sources for Galveston, making, with what the Board collected, a total fund of \$9,806.29 for the rehabilitation of our Church in that City. The Committee on Applications recommended that \$4,000 be added to this amount from our general funds.

There were other extraordinary demands upon the Board (1901) which it could not meet out of its ordinary resources.

HAVANNA, CUBA. A door was opened at Havana, Cuba, for us to give the gospel to that people. Property was purchased but not entirely paid for. One thousand dollars was needed to help the Cubans.

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA. At Berkeley, the seat of the University of California, there was urgent need for a church building in which to take care of the Methodist young women and young men who were being educated there, but our people in California were unable to provide it.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA. One of our churches at Jacksonville, Florida, was in ashes, and with it the homes of many of our people. Because we had an empty

treasury, relief had to come from some source other than the ordinary collections.

Freewill offerings for these objects were urgently solicited from our people everywhere, and especially from those whom God had blessed with abundance.

RESOLUTION. In order to provide a means of checking contributions that were made it was resolved (1902) that "All specials for the increase or improvement of our houses of worship, in the home or foreign field, should be sent through the Church Extension office, and that the Secretary be authorized in all such cases to apply funds so collected as the case required without waiting for special action by the Board."

CALIFORNIA DISASTER. In 1906 an appalling and unprecedented disaster, both by earthquake and conflagration, befell San Francisco, Santa Rose, San Jose, and other centers on the Pacific Coast. To our people in this territory the Board pledged all possible aid in the relief of their suffering. The connectional character of the work of Church Extension is best illustrated by reference to the distribution of donations. Whenever it has been possible the Board has done its part in meeting the challenge of our needy people in grief-stricken and devastated areas suffering from the disaster of flood, fire, or tornado.

COTTON MILL CENTERS

The need which was exhibited by our churches in mill towns caused a question to be raised about the title to mill town property. The Committee to which this question was referred, offered the following for adoption for the guidance of the Secretary of this Board, and the Annual Conference Boards of Church Extension in the adminis-

tration of grants made to mill towns and other such localities where it was impossible to secure titles to church property in fee simple:

“Whereas, It is the business of the Church of Jesus Christ to preach the gospel to all the people, and

“Whereas, Mill Town and other such communities are frequently in urgent need of assistance in building houses of worship, and are in no wise responsible for conditions which make perfect titles impossible. Therefore,

“*Resolved*, That it is the judgment of this Board that such general rules as forbid the payment of grants to trustees holding property in these places by imperfect titles, should be so relaxed as to enable such trustees to receive appropriations which may be made by this Board, or by the Conference Boards of Church Extension.

“*Resolved*, Second, That in all such cases, contracts be secured from the vendors of the property, which shall give the trustees the right at their discretion, to remove from the site such improvements as may have been placed thereon.”*

The statements appearing above expressed the views of a special committee on Mill Town Titles in 1908. It was in 1925 that the Board gave special consideration to the churches in cotton mill centers of South Carolina by authorizing the Executive Committee to make available \$10,000 to aid in the erection of these churches. The application of this money made possible the erection of five excellent church buildings costing more than \$100,000. In most cases as soon as the mill owners realized that the Board of Church Extension and South Carolina Methodism were in earnest about making provision for the reli-

*1908 *Church Extension Hand Book*, pages 58, 59.

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gious life of the mill population, they came forward with liberal contributions to aid in this work. The hearty response of mill executives to this challenge of the Church caused the Board to recommend an appropriation of a similar amount the following year.

DUKE FUND

The Church has been made acquainted with the contribution of Mr. J. B. Duke in the interest of Methodism in North Carolina.

On November 10, 1915, in response to a request, Dr. McMurry met Bishop Kilgo in New York, and together they visited Mr. Duke. Following this interview Mr. Duke placed a check of \$25,000 in the hands of the Secretary, which was accompanied by the following letter:

“NEW YORK, November 15, 1915.”

“DR. W. F. McMURRY,

“CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION, 1025 BROOK STREET, LOUISVILLE, KY.

“*Dear Dr. McMurry:*

“As promised, I inclose my check for \$25,000, to the order of the Board of Church Extension.

“I wish \$15,000 of this amount used in assisting in the erection of Methodist Episcopal Churches in the State of North Carolina. While I wish to give you latitude for the exercise of your discretion in disbursing this fund, still it is my desire that it be expended more particularly, if not entirely, with reference to churches in those rural communities, as distinguished from towns in larger places where the people desire a church but are unable to build it wholly themselves.

“The remaining \$10,000 I wish used in assisting in

defraying the current expenses of the churches to whose erection you have contributed out of the \$15,000 fund.

“Will you kindly acknowledge receipt and send me from time to time a report as to what disbursements you have made, giving such particulars as you can?

Very truly yours,

“(Signed) J. B. DUKE.”*

The Committee that formulated for the Board a fitting acknowledgment of the benefaction of Mr. J. B. Duke, through which he agreed to donate to our Church the sum of \$25,000 annually, gave due consideration to his beautiful and exemplary act and recommended the adoption of the following preamble and resolutions:

“WHEREAS, Mr. J. B. Duke has agreed to make an annual donation to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of \$25,000, and

“WHEREAS, The Administration of \$25,000 of this sum has been intrusted to the Board of Church Extension, and

“WHEREAS, Ten thousand dollars of this fund, while it is to be handled and disbursed by the Board of Church Extension, is to be used for the support of the rural mission charges within the North Carolina and the Western North Carolina Conferences within the State of North Carolina, and

“WHEREAS, Fifteen thousand dollars of the fund is to be used for the support of the distinctive work of the Board of Church Extension in the rural sections of the two Conferences within the State of North Carolina, and

“WHEREAS, The Board of Church Extension, now in annual session in the city of Louisville, desires to express

*1916 *Church Extension Hand Book*, pages 109, 110.

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itself in grateful acknowledgment of this gift from Mr. Duke; therefore, be it

“*Resolved*, First, That we are profoundly grateful to Mr. Duke for this large and generous contribution to the support of the supremely important work of our Church and our Board.

“Second. That we sincerely appreciate the confidence that he manifests in the integrity and wisdom of the Board of Church Extension and its Corresponding Secretary by committing to the administration of the Board of Church Extension not only that part of this fund that would naturally pass through its hands, but by placing with us a trust that would ordinarily come under the management of another agency of our Church.

“Third. That we pray the continued blessings of God upon Mr. Duke and commend his unselfish example to men and women of wealth throughout our Church.

“Fourth. That we are thankful to Bishop Kilgo and Dr. McMurry for their counsel and efforts through which this benefaction was bestowed upon the Church that we love.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. HENDRIX, *Chairman*,

E. E. HOSS,

LEE T. MANN.”*

For several years Mr. Duke continued to send his check for \$25,000. By 1920 he had placed a total of \$125,000 with the Board of Church Extension in this way.

REFUNDING BONDS

It is a rule of the Board that whenever a donation is

*1916 *Church Extension Hand Book*, pages 79, 80.

made, a Mortgage and Refunding Bond is taken on the church property. The *Church Extension Manual* says:

“Let it be understood that the Board does not donate money absolutely and without reserve. In every case, except the church or parsonage be in a foreign country, or in a territory where valid mortgages of real estate cannot be executed, a Mortgage and Refunding Bond is taken on the church property, in which it is provided that in case the same ever passes out of the hands of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, or ceases to be used as a place of worship, or of residence for ministers, or is devoted to other uses, then the Board shall have a lien on the property for the sum donated. If neither of these things happens, the Board can never demand the return of the money. The object in view is the permanent establishment of a place of worship for our people or a house for the minister, and wherever this end has failed and the property ceases to be so used, the Board asks the return of the money it has given to the enterprise. However, it must be remembered that the Board looks to the property for reimbursement, and not to the people.”

We find that much confusion and delay is caused to churches in financing the building and enlargement of churches because lawyers construe the Mortgage and Refunding Bond as a first mortgage against the property. Prior to 1927 there was no regulation whereby these Mortgage and Refunding Bonds could be released or subordinated to a first mortgage, except by action of the Executive Committee or of the Board in Annual Meeting. As an aid to churches in financing their enterprises the Secretary was granted the power to release or subordinate

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Mortgage and Refunding Bonds to first mortgages in certain cases stipulated in the following paragraph:

“The Secretary shall have power to release mortgage and refunding bonds held by this corporation in an amount not exceeding \$5,000 and subordinate them to first mortgages placed on church property in cases where application has been made therefor by churches in order to raise money by first mortgage liens to finance building enterprises and provided that the value of the property is sufficient to safeguard the investment of the Board of Church Extension.”

As the years passed and the volume of the Board's work increased, the receipts from Refunding Bonds rapidly increased. The table below gives the receipts on Refunding Bonds by quadrenniums from the beginning:

First Quadrennium	.....1882-85	.....
Second Quadrennium	.....1886-89	\$ 1,300 00
Third Quadrennium	.....1890-93	1,600 00
Fourth Quadrennium	.....1894-97	2,296 48
Fifth Quadrennium	.....1898-1901	2,823 00
Sixth Quadrennium	.....1902-05	4,699 50
Seventh Quadrennium	.....1906-09	8,982 90
Eighth Quadrennium	.....1910-13	7,525 00
Ninth Quadrennium	.....1914-17	40,128 04
Tenth Quadrennium	.....1918-21	39,370 54
Eleventh Quadrennium	.....1922-25	11,526 36
Twelfth Quadrennium	.....1926-29	13,804 30

Total to March 31, 1930\$134,056 12

EDUCATIONAL CENTERS

At a meeting of the Joint Committee from the Board of Missions and the Board of Church Extension on Educational Centers, held at the Board of Church Extension

Building, Louisville, Kentucky, July 24, 1929, it was moved and carried that the following statement be adopted as the report of the Joint Committee, and that the report be submitted to the Board of Missions by J. F. Rawls, and the Board of Church Extension by T. D. Ellis, at their Annual Meetings in 1930. The report is as follows:

“The General Conference meeting at Hot Springs in 1922 by formal action turned over to the Board of Missions and the Board of Church Extension the balance remaining from the fund provided in the Centenary War Work Activities, ‘for the purpose of assisting in the erection of church buildings in educational centers and with special reference to State institutions and independent foundations.’

“A Joint Committee of six members was appointed by the two Boards—three from the Board of Missions and three from the Board of Church Extension—to administer this fund for the building of churches in educational centers. The Joint Committee was composed as follows: From the Board of Missions—R. L. Russell, J. W. Perry, and Louis Boeger, and from the Board of Church Extension—W. F. McMurry, T. D. Ellis, and W. E. Brock. When R. L. Russell ceased to be a member of the Board of Missions, J. F. Rawls was elected to take his place, and when W. E. Brock ceased to be a member of the Board of Church Extension, J. W. Johnson was elected to take his place.

“The Joint Committee met at Nashville, Tennessee, June 28, 1922, and organized by electing W. F. McMurry, Chairman, and R. L. Russell, Secretary.

“By formal action the Joint Committee directed T. D. Ellis, Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, to

receive all applications for aid for church buildings, to conduct all correspondence in connection therewith, and to prepare all cases for presentation to the Joint Committee. It was further ordered that application blanks be prepared for the use of churches making applications.

“The Secretary of the Board of Church Extension was instructed that funds invested are to be placed and secured on the same terms and conditions as those used by the Board of Church Extension in its regular work and that no exception is authorized except on instructions from the Joint Committee.

“The Committee recorded it as its judgment that the expense incurred in the administration of this fund by travel or otherwise should be borne by the fund.

“At a meeting of the Joint Committee held January 5, 1923, R. L. Russell and J. W. Perry reported that the Board of Missions proposed to hold fifty per cent of the funds naturally going through their Board and to pay four per cent on daily balances for the use of the same, a report to be made monthly to this Joint Committee as to the detailed status of the fund. On motion the proposition was accepted and throughout the administration of the fund one-half of the amount received from the Missionary Centenary has been turned over to the Board of Missions and one-half to the Board of Church Extension.

“From reports from the Board of Missions and from the Board of Church Extension of amounts received from the Missionary Centenary the following financial statement has been compiled from the official records of the two Boards:

THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION—A HISTORY

Received from the Missionary
 Centenary by the Board of
 Missions\$454,784 03
 Interest earned 27,513 52

Total received by the Board of Missions.\$482,297 55

Received by the Board of
 Church Extension from the
 War Work Commission ...\$ 1,027 74
 From the Missionary Centenary 454,784 04
 Interest earned 31,819 95

Total received by the Board of Church
 Extension\$487,631 73

TOTAL received by both Boards to be appro-
 priated by the Joint Committee\$969,929 28

“Appropriations have been made to churches and pay-
 ments made thereon as follows:

Name	Amount	Paid
Birmingham, McCoy Memorial Church	\$ 32,500 00	\$ 32,500 00
Tucson, Ariz., Church	35,000 00	35,000 00
Nogales, Ariz., Church	8,000 00	8,000 00
Fayetteville, Ark., Central Church	15,000 00	15,000 00
Berkeley, Calif., Epworth Church	50,000 00	50,000 00
Lakeland, Fla., Dixieland Church	10,000 00	10,000 00
Richmond, Ky., Belle H. Ben- nett Memorial Church	30,000 00	30,000 00
Morehead, Ky., Church	1,837 44	1,837 44
Baton Rouge, La., First Church	75,000 00	75,000 00
Lafayette, La., Church	25,000 00	25,000 00
Baltimore, Md., Wilson Memo- rial Church	25,000 00	25,000 00

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Starksville, Miss., First Church	15,000 00	15,000 00
Fayette, Mo., Church	31,000 00	31,000 00
Columbia, Mo., Church	100,000 00	95,000 00
St. Louis, Mo., Centenary Church	30,000 00	30,000 00
St. Louis, Mo., University Church	25,000 00	25,000 00
Warrensburg, Mo., Gay Street Church	14,000 00	14,000 00
East Las Vegas, N. M., First Church	28,000 00	28,000 00
Roswell, N. M., Church	15,000 00	15,000 00
Chapel Hill, N. C., Church . . .	50,000 00	50,000 00
Boone, N. C., Church	5,000 00	5,000 00
Smithville, Okla., Church	5,000 00	5,000 00
Goodwell, Okla., Church	20,000 00	20,000 00
Corvallis, Ore., Church	30,000 00	30,000 00
Clemson College, S. C., Church	15,000 00	15,000 00
Rock Hill, S. C., St. John's Church	25,000 00	25,000 00
Austin, Texas, University Church	30,000 00	30,000 00
Alpine, Texas, Church	10,000 00	10,000 00
Canyon, Texas, Church	25,000 00	25,000 00
Dallas, Texas, Highland Park Church	50,000 00	50,000 00
Denton, Texas, Church	35,000 00	35,000 00
Charlottesville, Va., First Church	75,000 00	75,000 00
Williamsburg, Va., Church . .	20,000 00	20,000 00
Lexington, Va., Trinity Church	25,000 00	2,924 50
Fairmont, W. Va., Billingsly Memorial Church	10,000 00	10,000 00
Totals	<u>\$995,337 44</u>	<u>\$968,261 94</u>

“The total expense of the administration of the fund is shown by the following exhibit :

PAID OUT BY THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION

1-5-23	Louis Boeger, Traveling Ex- pense to Louisville, Ky., Committee Meeting	\$ 59 52.
1-5-23	R. L. Russell, Travel Ex- pense to Louisville, Ky., Committee Meeting	7 00
1-5-23	J. W. Perry, Traveling Ex- pense to Louisville, Ky., Committee Meeting	18 00
2-6-23	U. S. Trust Co., Box Rent to 2-6-24	3 00
6-19-23	Board of Church Extension, Travel Expense, T. D. Ellis	250 00
7-16-23	J. W. Perry, Travel	18 00
7-16-23	R. L. Russell, Travel	7 25
7-16-23	W. E. Brock, Travel	33 18
7-16-23	Board of Church Extension, Incid. Exp: Stamps, Tele- grams, Overprinting Ap- plications and Books	31 08
7-16-23	Board of Church Extension, Travel Expense, T. D. Ellis	20 00
1-29-24	Board of Church Extension, Travel Expense, T. D. Ellis	60 00
	Sundry Expense, Telegrams .	5 23
3-28-24	R. L. Russell, Travel Expense	100 00
3-28-24	J. W. Perry, Expense Attend- ing Committee Meeting . . .	15 00
2-2-25	U. S. Trust Co., Box Rent to 2-6-26	6 00
7-29-25	Incidental Expense for Year, Telegrams	1 73
	Travel Expense, T. D. Ellis .	15 00
	Travel Expense, J. A. Baylor	22 35
2-5-26	U. S. Trust Co., Rent of Box	3 00
Total		\$675 34

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PAID OUT BY THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

6-8-23	Travel Expense, R. L. Russell, Western Trip	\$200 00
	Total	\$200 00
	Total	\$875 34

"In the early part of 1925 it became apparent that the Joint Committee had appropriated nearly \$100,000 more than would be received from the War Work Fund. At a meeting held May 7, 1925, a number of appropriations to churches were rescinded in cases where the building enterprise had not been begun. This explains why in the report submitted, Lexington, Va., was granted a donation of \$25,000 and paid only \$2,924.50, the small amount paid to the church at Lexington being the adjustment allowed by the Missionary Centenary, the remainder of the donation having been rescinded May 7, 1925.

"For similar reasons Columbia, Mo., agreed to release in 1928 \$5,000 of the donation to the Missouri Methodist Foundation, receiving \$95,000 instead of \$100,000, the amount of the original grant.

"From these statements it will be seen that the two Boards have received from all sources \$969,929.28. Subtract from this the total expense of administration amounting to \$875.34 and the total amount paid on appropriations amounting to \$968,261.94, and it leaves in the hands of the Board of Church Extension for distribution \$792.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) T. D. ELLIS."*

*1930 *Church Extension Hand Book*, pages 18-22.

The year 1926-27 was one of unusual demands upon the Board of Church Extension. The effort to meet the emergencies created by storms, crop failures, and low prices in Florida, Cuba, and Arkansas taxed the Board to the limit of its funds. The Appropriations Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Secretary endeavored to meet these unusual conditions and thereby enable churches to house their preachers and congregations. As a result it became necessary to grant fewer and smaller donations that year than for several years previous. The loss of church property resulting from the storm that swept over Florida, September 18 and 19, was conservatively estimated at \$250,000. More than fifty churches were damaged and sixteen others were totally destroyed. Practically every parsonage in the area touched by the storm was damaged, and eight parsonages were totally destroyed. On September 28, 1926, the Appropriations Committee authorized a church-wide appeal for funds to replace the damaged property in the storm area. It was the season of Annual Conferences, a time when the pastors and official boards were busy closing up financial matters for the year and when many of the preachers were moving from one charge to another. The result was that we received from the church-wide appeal \$10,953.07. One thousand dollars of this amount was sent to Dr. W. G. Cram, Secretary of the Board of Missions, to be used toward the support of the preachers in the distressed area. This left \$9,953.07 to be used by the Board of Church Extension in the work of rebuilding churches and parsonages.

At the meeting September 28, the Appropriations Committee suggested that it would be wise for the Executive

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Committee to appropriate \$25,000 from the Donation Fund to aid in the work of reconstruction. The Executive Committee appropriated that amount so the work of reconstruction might begin at once. At its meeting on November 24, the Executive Committee appropriated an additional \$15,000, making a total of \$40,000 for the work of rebuilding churches and parsonages that year in the storm-stricken area.

GENERAL SUMMARY FOR QUADRENNIUM 1926-30

During the quadrennium preceding the last General Conference (1930) the Board aided, by donations and loans, 2,018 churches and 535 parsonages, making a total investment in churches and parsonages for the quadrennium amounting to \$2,986,750.68.

The Secretary, Dr. Ellis, was able to report with genuine pride that the Board had been able to pay all appropriations made to both churches and parsonages as the churches became ready to receive the money and at the same time meet all the expenses of the operation of the Board without incurring any debt except the annuities. There is reason to believe that the business of the Board will continue to be administered in such way that those who are able to contribute to its great work will be induced to do so because of the good business principles fixed for the administration of its funds.

From its organization in 1882 to the close of the fiscal year in 1932 the Board has aided in the erection of 12,253 churches and 3,824 parsonages, making a total investment in both churches and parsonages amounting to \$17,056,125.25. The total receipts from the beginning (1882) to March 31, 1932, have been \$24,319,487.33.

KINGDOM EXTENSION

When the Kingdom Extension offering was taken during the early months of 1931 and 1932, the Board of Church Extension co-operated with the other Boards through the Commission on Benevolences in the Kingdom Extension Cultural Campaign. This effort was successful in reaching individual congregations with a message of Christian stewardship and a great appeal to support Conference and Connectional Boards in the benevolent work of the Church. The proportion which the Board of Church Extension received from the total distribution was six and one-fourth per cent of the amount collected.

QUORUM

The time finally came when it was imperative to make appropriations during the interim between annual meetings. As the membership grew in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and names were added officially to the Board of Church Extension, it seemed wise to increase the number of votes required to constitute a quorum. For the reason that quorums as fixed previously were defined when the membership of the Board was about twenty-one, and when in the regulations there was provision for what was known as a Local Board whose duties were then being discharged by the Executive and Finance Committee, it was decided by the General Conference (1914) to change paragraph 390 of the *Discipline* by making fifteen votes constitute a quorum instead of nine as previously required. The fiscal year of the Board was also made to close on March 31.

Six years later (1920), Article IV, Section I, of the By-Laws was amended, at an annual meeting, by striking out

the words, "or in his absence," which made the Vice-President as well as the President a member of the Executive Committee; and, by requiring that three members instead of two be selected from the Board and added to the regular officers to constitute the Executive Committee. Furthermore, five votes were required to constitute a quorum in the committee instead of three as heretofore. The amended section read:

"SECTION I. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and three other members of the Board. Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The President of the Board shall be Chairman of the Committee, and the Secretary shall be Secretary and shall record the proceedings of the Committee in a book provided for that purpose. It shall also be his duty to present these Minutes to the Board at its Annual Meeting, and the same shall be read as the report of the Committee, unless otherwise ordered by the Board."

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

At the Annual Meeting of the Board in 1922 a special committee on the Appropriation of Funds was raised to consider the question of constituting a standing committee on the Appropriation of Funds. This special committee composed of the President and Secretary of the Board, together with James Thomas, R. O. Randle, and W. N. Ainsworth, was to report at the next Annual Meeting. In 1923 the committee submitted the following:

"Resolved, First, the Board shall appoint annually a Committee on Appropriations, to be composed of twelve

members, seven of whom shall be the members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Church Extension, and five to be appointed from among the members of this Board upon nomination of the Committee on Nominations.

“Second, the Appropriations Committee shall meet three times a year, in addition to the Annual Meeting of the Board, on the call of the President and Secretary of the Board.

“Third, this Committee shall have authority to make, by a three-fourths vote, grants of donations and loans under the same rules and regulations governing appropriations by the Board in its Annual Meetings, except that at no meeting shall the appropriations for either donations or loans exceed one-fourth of the amount available for appropriation as estimated and approved at the preceding Annual Meeting of the Board.

“We further recommend that the Executive Officer of the Board be authorized and instructed to incorporate the above in the By-Laws of the Board, making such changes as are necessary thereto.

(Signed) JAMES THOMAS,
W. N. AINSWORTH,
R. O. RANDLE,
T. D. ELLIS,
W. F. McMURRY.”

The purpose of the new committee was to accomplish some such ends as these:

“(1) Avoid the confusion incident to crowding everything on one calendar, thereby making it of such volume that it was impossible to consider properly each case.

“(2) Eliminate, in a large degree, premature applica-

tions, and those inadequately prepared; the first class resulting, as a rule, from lack of time for their preparation, and the second from lack of care and appreciation of the necessity of meeting the requirements of the Board for information concerning cases seeking aid. In sending back such applications for additional information the congregation in need of assistance would not be under the necessity of waiting one year for another opportunity.

“(3) Leave a margin of funds out of which to care for emergency cases, that arise continually.

“(4) Eliminate in a large degree the necessity for building committees to rely upon the suggestion of the pastor or presiding elder as to what the Board might do, and the letting of contracts based upon such suggestions, which frequently lead to the embarrassment of building committees and the Board.

“(5) Anticipate the amount of funds, particularly loan funds, available for appropriation during any fiscal year, as the amount depends (1) upon collections from outstanding loans, (2) additions to the loan fund capital, and (3) the readiness with which churches place themselves in position to receive loan grants. Because these three contingencies could only be guessed at, it was found that during the fiscal year 1916-17 a very large loan fund balance was carried—most of the time above \$100,000, which, under rules then existing, had to be withheld from churches ready to meet conditions to receive same, and clearly entitled to loans.

“(6) Relieve the Annual Meeting of much tedious detail, afford opportunity for a better study of plans and policies in the interest of a more efficient service to the Church, and by limiting the number for consideration

each quarter provide sufficient time for the careful study of each application. This also permitted each member of the Committee to be fully informed as to the details of each case, and secure better and larger results in the expenditure of the Board's funds."

VI

INSURANCE OF CHURCHES

THE following important rules were adopted (1894), providing for the insurance of property upon which the Board of Church Extension held liens:

“(1) In making remittances of aid granted churches and parsonages the Corresponding Secretary shall in each case reserve out of the amount granted a sum sufficient to pay for insuring the church or parsonage against loss or damage by fire for a term of five years in case of a donation, and for a term as long as the loan has to run in case of a loan, and in all cases for an amount not less than the sum granted.

“(2) No extension of time of payment of any instalment of a loan shall be granted until the applicants therefor shall have paid to the Board a sum sufficient to insure the interest of the Board in the property of the applicants during the period for which extension is desired: *Provided*, that where the Trustees already hold policies meeting said requirements they may file them with the Board in lieu of the cash premiums aforesaid.

“(3) In all cases where the cash premiums are so retained by or paid to the Corresponding Secretary it shall be his duty forthwith to take out policies of insurance covering the property to be protected; *Provided*, that in cases where the buildings are unfinished he may wait until notified of completion by the officers of such churches.

“(4) Such changes shall be made in the forms of applications for aid, bonds, mortgages, and refunding bonds as

may be necessary in order to make the provisions of the foregoing rules part of the contracts between this Board and the beneficiaries of its aid."

At the annual session, 1898, the Board was requested to take into consideration the matter of organizing a church insurance company, as suggested in the quadrennial address of the Bishops, upon such plan as it might consider best, to be located at Louisville, Kentucky, and operated as far as practicable in connection with the Church Extension work, but without in any manner complicating or involving the Board so as to render it liable for the contracts of such company. Investigation proved that under the laws of Kentucky it was practically impossible to organize except upon the joint-stock plan, with a paid-up capital of at least \$100,000. Such an amount was not available, and it did not seem expedient to undertake to raise it by soliciting private subscriptions of stock upon which dividends would have to be paid. The matter was brought to the attention of the Legislature of Kentucky, which unanimously passed a bill removing the statutory difficulty referred to.

The Board was further instructed that if it was found impracticable or inadvisable to organize such a company, it should negotiate with some safe insurance company or companies, and, if practicable, make some arrangement with same whereby the trustees of our church property might be enabled to secure the advantages of reduced rates of insurance.

The Commission appointed (1899) to devise ways and means for organizing a church insurance company reported that they were unable to arrange with any approved com-

pany whereby the cost of fire insurance could be reduced to our people.

The imperative need of a general and systematic effort to secure suitable protection of church property was emphasized by the fact, that, as early as the quadrennium that closed in 1898, the aggregate loss upon uninsured property was \$74,947. Despite the removal of statutory difficulties by the Legislature of Kentucky, the Board did not take any steps under its provisions.

Again in 1914 the General Conference took favorable action on the subject of church insurance. The Secretary was not unmindful of this action of the General Conference, or that taken by the Board upon several occasions, but he did not find it possible to reach definite conclusions without prolonged effort.

In 1917 the Committee on Organization recommended that the Corresponding Secretary continue to collect data so the Board could make a recommendation regarding it to the next General Conference. During the year that followed diligent study was given to the subject and the conclusion reached that the Church, through its Board of Church Extension, might very properly provide for carrying a large part of its fire and storm risk on church and parsonage properties.

It was the judgment of those concerned that an insurance company should not be organized which would place the Church in competition with fire and storm insurance companies and make it subject to the statutes of the several states in which the property was located, but that it should proceed upon the basis of carrying its own risk on the whole of its property, or such part of the whole,

as could be brought into co-operation by the following method:

“1. List and classify for insurance purposes all the property owned by the Church.

“2. Determine from available sources the insurable value and the cost necessary to carry the risk on each piece of property thus listed and classified.

“3. Assess against each piece of property the cost of carrying the risk on same, which amount might be called the Insurance Assessment.

“4. When payment of the insurance assessment was made, receipt for same in such form as to create an obligation to pay the amount of any loss (not exceeding the insurance value) that might be sustained. The annual payment of this insurance assessment would operate to protect the property for the amount involved for one year from date of payment.

“5. Make arrangement to accept one, two, three, four, or five payments of the annual insurance assessment at one time and at a proper reduction of the total.

“6. In determining the amount of the insurance assessment there should be taken into consideration the necessary expense of operation, and a sufficient margin to remove the possibility of embarrassment in the event of unusual loss by fire or storm. Should the surplus thus realized become too large, the assessment could be decreased or protection extended on all properties upon which the insurance assessment had been regularly paid for a period of time to be determined by this Board.

“7. The Board should be charged with the management of this business, including the receiving and investing of



REV. H. A. BOAZ, D.D.
(Now Bishop Boaz)
SECRETARY, 1918-1919

funds, and given authority to transact all the business pertaining thereto."

Investigation went far enough to permit an expression of conviction that an organization of this general character would not only protect a great deal of our property remaining continuously unprotected, but would lessen the cost of protection of the thousands of faithful congregations that did keep their property insured.

In order to safeguard the rights of the Board to conduct an insurance company a recommendation was made that it be given authority to provide for the protection of church, parsonage, and other property belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, against loss by fire and storm, *provided*, that the Loan Fund Capital of the Board should not be placed in jeopardy; and *provide, further*, that the plan adopted should not be in violation of the statutes of the several states in which the property of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was located. It was to be the duty of the presiding elder, the preacher in charge, and the trustees, to co-operate with this Board in securing data necessary to determine the insurable value of each piece of property and the classification of same, looking to the determination of the amount of the insurance assessment thereon and in securing payment of the insurance assessment on property with which they were officially connected.

The Committee on Organization recommended that this method of protection be put into operation as soon as possible.

Some of the findings of the Committee on Insurance that were presented to the Board in 1919 were made to read as follows:

"1. That forty per cent of our church property is not insured, a part that could least afford to be unprotected.

"2. That the law provides that no plan shall be adopted in violation of the statutes of the several States in which property of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is located.

"3. That no fire and tornado insurance company could now be organized and operated by our Church that could have legal standing in the various States.

"4. That it seems to your committee that before any fire or tornado insurance company could be established by this Board, that new authority would be necessary from the General Conference, or the restrictions removed by the various States.

"5. That it appears that by the action of this Board last year, and of the General Conference, an insurance company was not approved, but rather a plan whereby the Church provided protection for its own property."

The committee recommended that the matter of developing a plan of protection, already approved, be referred to a committee consisting of the Secretary of the Board, Dorman Thompson, Bishop W. F. McMurry, R. O. Randle, and J. A. Baylor. The committee named last was to report its findings to the Executive Committee of the Board, which should have authority to act in putting the plan into effect.

In 1922 the Board expressed its views in regard to the insurance question by saying:

"It is our judgment that this is one of the most important matters before the Church—a matter that has been too long delayed."

Feeling that its judgment was borne out by the large

losses sustained each year by the Church from the excess of premiums paid, over losses collected, and from the destruction of uninsured churches and parsonages, the Secretary, Dr. Ellis, began at an early date, after assuming the duties of his office, to prepare and develop the plan of property protection authorized in Paragraph 515 of the *Discipline* for 1922, and adopted in the several reports of Committees and Commissions from this Board.

The way seemed clear for the future development of this plan, so on July 5, 1922, Dr. Ellis submitted the question to the Executive Committee with certain recommendations. After reciting the action of the Board at the Annual Meeting, 1922, he asked the Committee to adopt the following, which was done:

"Therefore, be it Resolved: That the Secretary be authorized to develop and prepare plans to put in effect the above recommendations to begin not later than January 1, 1923, and that he be authorized to bring a nomination to the Executive Committee of a proper person as Insurance Secretary at a salary not to exceed \$3,600 per year."

On August 1, 1922, the President and the Secretary addressed a letter to Hon. J. F. Ramey, Insurance Commissioner of the State of Kentucky, explaining that for several years the Board of Church Extension had been giving study to the question of the protection of church buildings and parsonages, that certain conclusions had been reached and that the Board was unwilling to proceed with any other plan, without the consent and approval of the Insurance Department of the State where it had its corporate existence as a Board. As a result a detailed statement of what was proposed was submitted to the State with the request that it be examined carefully and

an opinion rendered as to whether or not it was in conflict with any statute of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

In his reply the Insurance Commissioner declared his Department was without authority to approve or disapprove any plan of insurance proposed for the exclusive protection of Church property. These views were concurred in by the Attorney General.

Subsequent to this, upon nomination of the Secretary, the Executive Committee elected the Rev. W. M. Blich, of the South Georgia Conference, Secretary of Property Protection. He entered upon the duties of his office December 1, 1922.

As progress was made toward the preparation and development of plans the Board found many legal questions arising out of the strict laws of the various states in reference to insurance companies, so it was necessary to resort to the constant advice of lawyers in order that our foundation papers might not only be in harmony with the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, but that they should not violate the laws of the other states where we expected to do business. With these precautions the Secretary was then ready to present the plan that had been developed.

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting (1923) the Property Protection Trustees met and organized, adopting the papers submitted to them as a whole. They authorized the Executive Committee to develop the whole plan for further consideration by the Protection Trustees. When these Trustees organized, the Board of Church Extension was relieved of giving further consideration to the matter.

After spending six months with the Board, Rev. W. M.

Blitch yielded to the appeal of the pastorate which he had served for many years. His resignation, which became effective June 1, 1923, enabled him to accept an appointment in the South Georgia Conference.

On October 1, of the same year (1923) Dr. R. N. Allen was secured to take charge of that Department and on September 24, 1924, upon nomination of the Secretary, Dr. Allen was elected Assistant Secretary of the Property Protection Trustees to set up and develop the Property Protection Department.

Investigation finally showed that the matter of setting up an Insurance Society by the Board of Church Extension was surrounded with very real legal and financial difficulties. It was found that the Board, under its Charter, could not become an Insurance Company and the Property Protection Trustees could not set up an Insurance Company without great capital, which neither the Board of Church Extension, nor any other organization of the Church, was prepared to furnish at that time. Therefore, the Board expressed appreciation of the very fine study of the whole subject which had been made and rendered to the body by the General Secretary, Dr. T. D. Ellis, and the Rev. R. N. Allen, a report which was very complete and faced frankly the difficulties involved.

The Board did not feel that it ought to go further in its recommendation than the General Secretary indicated in his report on this subject.

In 1926 Dr. Ellis stated that those charged with the responsibility of developing suitable protection for churches and parsonages were not able to report a definite working plan, and that in line with the recommendation of the Committee he suggested that the Board memorialize

the General Conference to amend the *Discipline* (1922 edition) by striking out Paragraph 515, Article 10, page 240. The paragraph designated had no subject matter except in reference to Church and Parsonage Protection. There were no references to the subject in other paragraphs of the *Discipline*.

Here the matter stands. The fruits of the investigation are not lost, for they have been preserved in the form of a thoroughgoing report to which reference can be made at any time.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Dr. Morton began to feel the need of more help in his office and was very anxious to have an Assistant Secretary elected. Largely on his representations the Committee on Church Extension brought in an early and favorable report on the subject to the General Conference which met at St. Louis in 1890.

The report prevailed by a large majority. Dr. James C. Morris, one of the purest and strongest men in the whole Church, was elected Assistant Secretary. After less than two years his devotion to the pastorate caused him to resign his Connectional position and to resume his loved employment in the ranks. His resignation became effective January 1, 1892. He was succeeded in office by Mr. Wilbur F. Barclay, a layman and a lawyer of the highest character and great ability, who was also, as his father had been before him, a most intimate friend of Dr. Morton. The two men pulled together in the same harness for many years. It was a capital arrangement in every way. They understood each other and loved each other. No misunderstanding ever arose between them.

Rev. Arthur Mather was then employed as Office Assistant (but not with the official title of Assistant Secretary) under authority of a resolution passed by the Board at its meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. His connection with the office dates from September 1, 1906. This arrangement was completed after consultation with Bishop Joseph S. Key, who made the formal appointment at the St. Louis Conference held in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, September 19-24, 1906.

The office of Assistant Secretary was not officially filled from 1906 to the time when Rev. George S. Sexton was elected at the Annual Meeting in 1909. Though Dr. Sexton was elected as Assistant Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, it was with special reference to the Washington City Church enterprise that he was employed. The Board was virtually without an Assistant Secretary from 1906 to May, 1915, when Dr. D. B. Price was elected officially to serve in that capacity. Dr. Price was secured to relieve the Corresponding Secretary of much detail work that the time of the latter might be given more largely to the Loan Fund and other important duties of his office. Dr. Price came from the Montana Conference. He resigned his position with the Board February 1, 1916. A year and a half elapsed from that date to May 1, 1917, when Mr. James B. Preston was elected to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Preston rendered faithful and valued service to the Board for more than eight years. On December 23, 1925, he passed to his eternal reward. At the time of his death Bishop McMurry paid high tribute to him in these words:

"He came to the Board of Church Extension during my administration as Secretary and has rendered continuous

service to that Board until his going away. His brotherly spirit, his clear understanding, his unquestioned honesty and fidelity, and his skill in handling the work made him necessary to the succeeding secretaries and the Board. No question has ever been raised, so far as I have knowledge, of a change in his relationship since he first entered upon his duties as Assistant Secretary. He was good, alert, competent, careful, efficient, and faithful in all his work and relationships. The Church has suffered a loss which will be difficult to replace."

E. D. Watson was employed by the Board as Office Assistant from 1908-1912.

On July 21, 1916, Rev. F. S. Crowe of the St. Louis Conference was employed as Assistant to the Corresponding Secretary. His resignation became effective February 1, 1917.

The Committee on the President's Report (1920) recommended that the Board employ a Loan Secretary, who should be charged under the direction of the Secretary with the care and collection of the investments of the Loan Fund Capital, and also with the direction of the Department of Protection of church property, should the Board decide to establish such a Department. At that time Mr. T. L. Jefferson was elected Loan Secretary. He gave diligent and faithful service to the Board until the Annual Meeting in 1923, when he resigned. Rev. W. M. Blitch was elected to succeed Mr. Jefferson. It is shown on a preceding page that he entered upon his duties as Secretary of Property Protection December 1, 1922, and resigned June 1, 1923.

In September, 1924, Dr. R. N. Allen was elected Assistant Secretary of the Property Protection Trustees. At

the same time his duties were enlarged in order that he might aid in the general work of the Board. Immediately following the death of Mr. Preston, Dr. Allen became the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, which position he continues to hold at the present time. From June, 1926, to October, 1928, Rev. Gilbert P. Robertson was employed by the Board as Assistant Secretary in charge of the Department of Collections.

VII

WASHINGTON CITY CHURCH

IN 1906 memorials from the Mount Vernon Church, Washington, D. C., and the Baltimore Conference were presented to the General Conference asking that body to set on foot plans for the erection of a house of worship that would worthily represent the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in our National Capital. A few days later the General Conference charged the Board of Church Extension with the responsibility of erecting a representative church building in the city of Washington, D. C., to cost not less than \$275,000. Bishops Candler and Hoss and the Corresponding Secretary were named as a Special Committee and specifically charged with this work under the direction of the Board. The Special Committee met in Washington on March 20, 1907, and gave ample time to the consideration of local conditions, conferring frequently with the committee which had been appointed by the Mount Vernon Quarterly Conference to represent that church in carrying out the instructions of the General Conference. The two committees unanimously agreed upon a lot for the new church building, which is located at the junction of K Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Ninth Street.

The Board noted with gratitude and thankfulness this sign of increasing interest in its work, but it did not forget that day by day new doors of opportunity were opening to it, new demands were being made upon it, and that new

and important enterprises were suffering for the lack of its timely aid. Only through large liberality on the part of the Church did it hope to accomplish this task which the Church had assigned it.

The Quarterly Conference of the Mount Vernon Place Church agreed to accept the proposal of the General Conference, and become responsible for \$75,000 on the condition that the Church at large would give \$200,000.

In 1909 Bishop Candler recommended Rev. George S. Sexton, of the Texas Conference, for election as Assistant Secretary of the Board of Church Extension with special reference to the proposed representative church in the city of Washington in order to secure a more certain and speedy consummation of this work. Dr. Sexton pursued the task about four years and a half. In December, 1913, he accepted an appointment as pastor of First Church, Shreveport, La.

Money came slowly. By the first of May, 1909, cash had been secured amounting only to \$1,165, and subscriptions amounting to \$30,810, making a total of \$31,975 of the \$200,000 we were obligated to raise. At this time the effects of the late panic, which were still evident, made it impossible to do anything worth while. The original Mount Vernon Place Church was built long before the Civil War and served as a place of worship for a faithful and loyal band of some of the very best men and women of Methodism. The second church building was erected soon after the war. Bishop A. W. Wilson was present at the laying of the corner stone, and was pastor from 1873-77. He spoke of the growth of the church, the other churches that had sprung from it, of the fidelity and zeal of its

members, the sacrifice they had made, and of their inability to build in keeping with their needs.

Although the Mount Vernon Place Church was completed so as to hold its opening exercises beginning June 15, 1919, it was not until 1920 that the Board of Church Extension appropriated \$50,000, payable in five equal annual installments, on condition that the local church would raise \$50,000, and the Board of Missions would appropriate \$50,000 subject to the same conditions imposed on the appropriation that was made by our Board. To meet an emergency, the Board of Missions agreed, at the request of the Commission on the "Representative Church" (a name often applied to the Mount Vernon Place Church), to anticipate the payments on its appropriation, provided a discount was accepted equal to the rate of interest carried by the notes from which the money was secured to complete the church.

This generous act of the Board of Missions relieved an acute situation, and solved in a great measure the problem of the church's indebtedness. Representative Church is now completed and the property is valued at \$530,000.

CITY CHURCH EXTENSION BOARDS

Authority for the creation of City Boards of Church Extension originated in the General Conference of 1894. In his twelfth annual report the Corresponding Secretary took advanced ground on the necessity for such boards. His experience as presiding elder of the Louisville District years before had shown him the necessity for co-ordinating the forces of all city churches in planning for future needs and working toward definite ends. He urged this step in these words:

“The time has fully arrived when, in my opinion, provision should be made in our organic law for the organization of local boards of Church Extension in our cities for the purpose of further stimulating and aiding in the erection of churches, with special reference to reaching and evangelizing the ‘unchurched masses’ of our urban population. The mass of the morally halt, lame, and blind of our day is not to be found in rural byways and hedges, but in the alleys and slums of our cities; and if we would induce them to partake of the gospel feast, it must be spread before their eyes.”

The City Board of Church Extension movement was slow in its development. During the first three years the boards that were organized under the provisions of Paragraph 388 of the Discipline, 1894 edition, had done but little in the way of carrying out the object of their creation. The organization here in Louisville was a notable exception. This Board had raised \$13,000, had secured a \$5,000 loan fund to be administered by the Parent Board, and, after being in continuous and active operation for six years, it had been responsible for the successful inauguration and completion of two churches, valued at \$17,000. The only indebtedness which was unprovided for amounted to about \$1,000. This good work was promoted with continued success and proved exceedingly helpful both in enlarging our borders and in paying off old church debts. By 1900 only two other cities were known to have such Boards or Societies in active operation—Atlanta and St. Louis. Organizations were effected from time to time, in other cities, but the General Board had no information that any of them were then at work. In Atlanta, during 1899, one mission church was erected and a membership

of 100 gathered together, while other enterprises were being planned. Good results were accomplished also in St. Louis.

A resolution was passed (1900) urging upon presiding elders, pastors, and laymen the importance of organizing City Boards of Church Extension wherever there were three or more pastoral charges, and of forwarding annual reports of their work to the General Board. A committee was appointed to revise and print the constitution and by-laws for gratuitous distribution to all who needed them in organizing this important work.

In 1903 Dr. Whisner visited Baltimore and Washington in the interest of the City Church Extension movement and corresponded with all the presiding elders whose districts embraced cities having three or more charges. As a result new boards were organized in the two cities named and in several others. Dr. Whisner was hopeful that such organizations would be effected in all cities of sufficient size, and that they would render very great service in aiding the Church to keep pace with the rapid growth of the urban population throughout the bounds of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Eleven years after authorization was secured to organize City Boards, St. Louis, Louisville, and Kansas City were the only ones to make a report to this office as the Discipline directed. These Boards proved to be doing a very important work for the Church in their respective cities. The St. Louis Board had raised during the year \$27,-014.44. The Louisville Board had raised \$3,538.66. The Kansas City Board was very wisely and heartily engaged in building an Open Door Church for the practical ap-

plication of the principles of Christianity to the masses of the population there.

The Chattanooga Church Extension and City Mission Society was organized in the spring of 1907. The need for a city-wide church extension movement first impressed itself upon the Presiding Elder of the Chattanooga District, Rev. R. A. Kelly. After conference with a few laymen, a committee on organization was appointed. At once, the committee communicated with Rev. W. F. McMurry, D.D., General Secretary of the Board of Church Extension at Louisville, Ky., who became an interested and helpful participant in the work of that Society. The constitution as finally adopted by the Society in Chattanooga was based upon that used by the City Board of Church Extension in St. Louis.

The funds realized from membership dues proved inadequate for the work of the Society, being barely sufficient to cover the running expenses. A mass meeting was planned and held at one of the central churches, at which a popular speaker presented the needs of the church extension work. A collection at this service amounted to less than \$100. The next effort was a campaign through the financial secretaries of the ten charges composing the Society. The result was the raising of a fund of about \$300.

Meanwhile, one of the suburban churches had begun the erection of a new house of worship to cost about \$15,000, and had reached the point where lack of funds threatened to force the abandonment of the project. The Society undertook to raise \$5,000 so as to aid this charge and be able to carry on its other work in the city. The amount was apportioned among all of the local charges according

to their ability and each one conducted a campaign along lines that were suited to the local conditions affecting it. The matter had been taken up with the Boards of Stewards in each charge and their co-operation secured. The principal feature of this campaign was the presentation of the cause at one or more of the stated Sunday services by leading laymen of the city, at which time, in many instances, these laymen took up a collection.

Just when success seemed assured, the city, which was previously embraced within a single presiding elder's district, was unfortunately divided—four charges of the ten in the city being placed within the boundaries of another district. This so embarrassed the work that the campaign was abandoned after \$1,000 had been raised and employed to aid the charge that was struggling to build its new church. Very little work was accomplished during the year following this division.

In October, 1908, the Holston Annual Conference again united the charges in the old district and the Society immediately took on new life. The old campaign was sufficiently revived to bring in about \$1,500 and aid the projected suburban church to stem the tide of failure. Another church in a thickly settled community within the limits of the city proper had set on foot a movement to build, and a new house of worship seemed imperative in five of the other charges. The pressing need of our churches throughout the city bore heavily upon the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Robert P. Purse. In conference with Dr. Kelly, still the Presiding Elder, he suggested a whirlwind campaign to raise a fund sufficient to assure the erection of an up-to-date building for each of the needy congregations.



REV. S. H. C. BURGIN, D.D.
SECRETARY, 1920-1921

WASHINGTON CITY CHURCH

It was decided to put on this campaign November 8-15, 1909, in an effort to raise \$20,000 to assist the work of the Society. A general chairman was appointed with ten committees of ten members each, to work with the women's societies, the Sunday schools and the Epworth Leagues in procuring the funds. It was further decided that the full amount needed should be raised or no subscription would be binding, and that subscriptions should be payable in four equal installments semiannually, beginning December 1, 1909. The plan of the committee was unanimously approved. The details of the organization are well worth reading. They can be found in the booklet designated as *The Chattanooga Plan for Church Extension*. It was a forward movement for uniting and entrenching Methodism in towns and cities.

Although the brethren undertook to raise \$20,000, the final results showed good subscriptions of more than \$25,000. The campaign so united all the elements in the city as to result in a widespread and far-reaching revival of religion, which touched almost every section of the city.

Dr. McMurry took part in this campaign and was so favorably impressed by the methods used and the success attained that he was instrumental in having an outline of the plan published by this Board for general circulation throughout the Church.

COLORED CHURCH EXTENSION BOARD

In 1909 the Church Extension Department of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church found itself in dire need of assistance. The General Secretary of that body, Rev. Rufus S. Stout, appealed to our Board in annual session for help. Dr. McMurry co-operated to the fullest

extent, for he and the Board were profoundly sympathetic with the colored brethen in their pressing need. When the situation was first presented our Board felt powerless to respond with direct aid, but later made several contributions for their relief.

When the matter was first presented by Dr. Stout in 1909, it was recommended that a committee from our Board composed of the Corresponding Secretary, the President and the Vice-President apportion the sum needed to our several Annual Conferences and notify these Conferences accordingly.

During the year that followed \$255.35 was collected, and an assessment made by a number of the Annual Conferences from which an additional amount could be realized. The Secretary of the General Board gave special attention to the matter through special conferences with the colored brethren until in 1915, he, together with general secretaries and representatives of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, in accordance with the action of our General Conference, recommended that the Church Extension Board of the Colored Methodist Church be removed from Kansas City, Missouri, to Louisville, Kentucky, in order that we might render greater service to this department of their Church.

Dr. McMurry had advised that if the Colored Church was in a position to move its department of Church Extension to Louisville, where our office could in some degree oversee the details of its work, that the service we could render might prove valuable. Their special need was to get their campaign for church building funds upon a basis that would commend it to the confidence of the people generally. Many of them who were seeking contributions

to church enterprises were doing so without the proper indorsement.

Later, this invitation was accepted and in 1919 the Church Extension Department of the Colored Church was moved to Louisville. A three-story brick building was purchased at 817 West Chestnut Street, for the sum of \$6,000—our Board contributing \$1,500 of this amount in order that the property might be owned free from debt. At this time the other connectional offices of the Colored Church, located at Kansas City, were removed to Nashville, Tennessee.

February 15, 1921, an agreement was entered into between the Secretary of this Board and the Secretary of the Board of Church Extension of the Colored Church, which made certain acknowledgments and resulted in the settlement of all our financial transactions with Dr. Stout. The agreement may be summarized as follows:

At its Annual Meeting in 1917 our Board authorized and instructed its Executive Committee to place on the calendar of the Annual Meeting, from time to time, for the consideration of the Colored Church Board, such applications as in its judgment were necessary to meet particularly meritorious cases.

When the General Conference met in 1918 it authorized our Board to give the Church Extension Board of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, dollar for dollar on all sums raised for Church Extension through their regular Church Extension assessments. The investment of this money was to be protected by liens on the property in which the funds were invested, according to the rules and regulations of our Board.

Finally, in 1919, a sum not exceeding \$50,000, arising

from the Centenary Funds and payable dollar for dollar for a like amount raised by the Colored Church was definitely set aside for the purpose of raising a permanent Loan Fund for these colored brethren.

VIII

THE WOMAN'S DEPARTMENT

SHORTLY after the Board of Church Extension was organized the Secretary with other friends of the cause were impressed with the thought that the women of the Church should in some special manner be enlisted in this branch of Church work. Bishop Hargrove also felt the necessity of building parsonages, a work in which he hoped to engage the hearts of the women. When he was first put in charge of Conferences in the West he became convinced that the steady, successful progress of our Church there depended upon the building of homes for the preachers. In one of his statements he said, "The need of the gospel in many places is great, but I had not the heart to send men where they and their families would have to suffer because there is no provision for them."

About this time Miss Lucinda B. Helm stood in the Church Extension office before a large map of the United States while the Corresponding Secretary pointed out to her places here and there where the Church was struggling against all manner of obstacles to plant the cross of Christ. Then it was that David Morton deeply impressed his listener by a single statement which brought previous reading to her mind and pictured to her the efforts our own Church was making to Christianize barbarous and ungodly elements in the midst of a Christian civilization. His statement was simple but forceful. "While we are endeavoring to build churches we meet a constant and imperative demand for parsonages."

Three thoughts took possession of Miss Helm, who later was to become the first Secretary of the Woman's Department. She thought, first, of the multitude of souls in easy reach of us who were dying without God and without hope; second, that God seemed to have gathered them from every quarter of the globe, "all nations," in a vast congregation before the Christian ministers of our land, and that our Church must do its part in preaching to them the gospel of the living God; third, the women of the Church must stand by these ministers, for as God called them to preach, so he was calling on the women to provide the homes so needed to plant the Church of Christ in the midst of the people.

"Will the women of the Church do this work?" asked Bishop Hargrove. "Call upon them, and see if they will not," was the reply.

He did make the call, and women brave and true responded with the loving zeal that only a woman's heart can know. Contending against obstacles unexpected, battling against indifferences where they thought to find ready responses, soothing the jealousy of mistaken zealots for other organizations, but ever guided and helped by God, they went forward slowly in regard to numbers, but they accomplished a great work.

It may be reiterated that at first the Woman's Department of this Board did not receive the attention it merited. Many of the women felt the same as Miss Helm, who testified that "an impetus, a light, a propelling power beyond her, lighted a fire within her soul and moved her with an irresistible force to throw her life into the work of redeeming her country from the enemy of souls, of establishing the kingdom of her Lord."

Much was said and written about the necessity of building parsonages and enlisting the help of the women of the Church, but nothing definite was done until the whole matter crystallized into a plan for "A Woman's Department of Church Extension for Parsonage-building," prepared by Lucinda B. Helm, and, at the instance of the Secretary and Bishop Hargrove, submitted to the members of the Board of Church Extension in January, 1886. This paper was referred by the Board to a committee consisting of Bishop Hargrove, Rev. H. C. Settle, and J. G. Carter, Esq. When the committee reported at the annual meeting three months later it proposed a memorial to the General Conference, which the Board adopted as follows:

"In view of the great lack of parsonages in the weaker charges and throughout the Church, and their importance to our itinerant economy; and whereas there is no organized agency to supply this demand, which appeals so directly and so strongly to the Christian endeavor of woman, whose special realm is the home, the Board of Church Extension believe it to be expedient that the General Conference provide for the organization of a 'Woman's Department of Church Extension,' having specific reference to the supply of parsonages for itinerant preachers, and ask your body so to do."

After due consideration this memorial was adopted by the General Conference of 1886, and the constitution of the Board of Church Extension was amended by the insertion of Articles XI, XII, and XIII as they appear on pages 35 and 36. On May 21 of the same year the Board met at Richmond, Va., and elected Miss Helm, of Ken-

tucky, the General Secretary to have entire charge of this department of Church Extension work.

At the time of the Civil War, Miss Helm was a teacher in the Russellville Female Academy, the predecessor of Logan College, when Dr. Morton was its President. He had known her all her life, had selected her for the position of Secretary of the new branch of Church Extension work, and had recommended her appointment to the Board. She entered upon her work with great diligence and secured the hearty co-operation of good women in every part of the Church. She was a sort of providential woman. Her family connections were of the highest in Kentucky. The famous Ben Hardin was her maternal grandfather; Governor John L. Helm was her father; and Gen. Ben Hardin Helm, who was killed while leading the Orphan Brigade at Chickamauga, was her brother. In every way she was a refined and cultivated lady and, above all, a most devoted and earnest Christian.

No one understood better than Bishop McTyeire the value to the Church of the work that could be done by the women in this field of parsonage building. A bright expression of pleasure lighted his face when first the plan of the movement was laid before him, and his lips uttered words of high praise which served as a cordial to the women in moments of weakness. In regard to the movement, he said to the Conferences over which he presided: "Brethren, there is nothing before you more important." In his mind it was what the Church had needed all these years to strengthen it in all places from the poorest circuits in the oldest Conferences to the latest posts established on the frontier. And he never failed to lend the cause a helping hand wherever he went.

An illustration will serve to show the influence of our parsonage building. Some of the Indians who have lived in our midst for more than a century were still savage heathen people, worshiping sun, moon, wind, snow, and rain. The bishop sent an earnest Christ-loving man among them. The only house he could obtain at Anadarko was in such a ruinous condition that the owner was on the eve of tearing down the old wreck. The rain poured into every part; the wind came through; yet it was a shade better than staying out of doors. Though filled with the same anxiety for the comfort and health of his family that any man would feel under the circumstances, the minister determined to stay. The situation presented a physical contest between the family and every circumstance that could bring disease and death. What the result would be was plainly to be seen. The man could do but little, and the mission would soon have been abandoned. This Society raised the money, built a comfortable parsonage, and the whole state of affairs was changed. The preacher in charge wrote these words: "Nobody knows what our Church has lost in this western field by a failure along this line. Nobody knows the gain there may be to the Church when a home is provided. Without a parsonage, the Church is crippled, the missionary is crippled, the work fails. This mission here illustrates. I have been here for more than a year without a home, suffering all sorts of inconveniences, like a muzzled ox treading out corn, or a man with his hands bound behind him running a race. The Church will be on a firm footing here by the erection of this house. It is the beginning of a healthy growth, only the beginning, for it makes further growth possible."

The Secretary of the Board of Missions stated that the parsonage was the "anchor" that held the gospel in that place. The mission developed to a flourishing condition, and was taken in charge by the Woman's Board of Missions. That parsonage, "the beginning," became the center of Christian civilization for a savage, heathen nation.

The building of a parsonage here and there was not an unimportant work with such an outgrowth as we have just seen. So it was all through the West, where houses were scarce and rent high—parsonage or no parsonage was the turning point. It meant gospel or no gospel to people utterly without God.

Bishop Galloway has given a touching account of the appeal made to him by the chief of one of these Indian tribes for the gospel to be sent to his people. It was before an International Indian Council. Describing the contrast of the civilized tribes with those yet without Christ, the bishop says: "In dress, manners, etc., they presented a striking object-lesson of the power of the gospel and the influence of Christian civilization. Among the representatives of the five civilized tribes were men who could fill creditably, if not with distinction, seats in either house of our national Congress. But their brethren of the far West, without education or the gospel, dressed after the manner of their fathers in the wildest of the wilderness, presented a picture that ought to stir the missionary fire of the Church everywhere. Their painted faces, hair dressed with feathers, ears strung with immense and numerous rings, and bodies wrapped in blankets or other material of flashy color, were in sad contrast with their well-dressed and educated brethren of the five civilized tribes. A speech by 'Poor Buffalo,' a Kiowa chief, im-

pressed me as no other appeal I ever heard in life. He was an elderly man, tall, with strong features, muscular frame, painted cheeks, and plaited hair decked with feathers. He wore a red shirt trimmed with yellow, beaded moccasins, elaborate leggins, and his body was wrapped in a scarf of muslin. He spoke with animation and emotion. His reference to their ignorance of our religion and their earnest desire that missionaries and teachers might be sent to his people as to the five civilized tribes were elegant beyond description. How I longed for the men and money to go up and possess a land so white unto harvest! If the picture of that aged chief, with his facial expression, tone of voice, and pleading manner, could be reproduced before every congregation in Southern Methodism, not a poor son of the forest would be denied the privilege of the gospel within the next six months."

The closing words of the chief's appeal could not have been resisted by any Christian who heard them: "I wish to say to Bishop Galloway and other ministers of the white man's God, that I want them to pray hard to their God for us, and try to send such teachers among us as will bring about that friendliness between them and us that will please the God. We are willing to try and learn of their religion and God because it seemed to us that he is the best. As I said yesterday, they cannot make much of us old Indians, but much good might be done with the young."

The Spirit of God had found a consecrated man ready to go. Rev. J. J. Methvin went gladly. But hear his description of the exposure he and his family were called upon to endure. He wrote:

"The little house we are in, grows worse as age creeps

on apace. Its friendly roof ceases to be friendly, for it opens its gaping cracks to receive the falling rain and send it in concentrated force down upon our devoted heads—about the wettest water you ever felt. By heaping everything upon the bed and elevating wife and little ones to the summit of that conglomerate heap and then hovering a parachute over the whole, we can keep things *sorter* dry. . . .

“Seriously, the fast-waning summer and the approaching autumn reminds me that winter will be here again soon, and with it the unheralded norther and piercing winds will also come to shake in playful toying the frail, thin structure in which we *camp*. My family must suffer if compelled to remain in this house another winter. As for myself, I could get along but for the mother and little ones (have only six). I *cannot*, I *must* not quit this field, until at least re-enforcements are sent and our Church is established here.”

The Woman’s Society came to the rescue. A parsonage with a large chapel room was built and the mission saved. From that time this mission to the wild tribes grew. It prospered and extended. Then came another call from there, to which the Society responded, and built another parsonage at Little Wichita.

Boxes of supplies supplemented the benefit of the parsonages, and from one of the Women’s Auxiliaries in St. Louis went a gospel wagon that bore as a blessing from these good women the bread of life from tent to tent to feed the souls of the helpless and dying.

Dr. Lambuth said that what the Society was doing at home cheered his heart when in the foreign field.

The good accomplished by the Woman’s Parsonage and

Home Mission Society has been reported by a devoted woman in the northwest: "The \$200 donation granted us by the Central Committee has enabled us to raise a good \$600 subscription for building, exclusive of the donation, and we will have, when completed, a beautiful little home; . . . yet without aid from the Society we could not have done anything, for our people are few and poor for the most part, and the outside world has lost confidence largely in our ability to do anything, but through this inspiration our subscription has come largely from outsiders."

Rev. E. J. Stanley, of Montana, gives his testimony also: "In my recent trip to Missouri and Kentucky to get more men for our needy field, I found myself embarrassed on this point: good, earnest, successful men were willing to come, but we had no houses for their families, and were unable to rent in the charges where they were to labor."

These testimonies furnish the keynote of the difficulty—the lack of parsonages was the obstacle that hindered the evangelism of the West.

Miss Helm justified every estimate of her fitness for the position of Secretary, as is fully proved by her first quadrennial report, which showed that 512 auxiliary societies had been organized with a total number of 7,216 members; that 204 parsonages had been helped; and that the aggregate sum of \$33,903.57 had been raised.

By the close of the first quadrennium her extensive correspondence and personal work had brought her in touch with the most needy field of our Church in all sections of the South and West; and, while her watchword was "A parsonage in every charge!" she felt a burning desire to furnish more than a parsonage. Her articles and leaflets written at this time distinctly show that nothing

less than the fullest and completest organized effort for home missions could satisfy her. She thought out new plans and prayed over them, and was determined to work for the enlargement of the charter of the Society. Everywhere she went, and upon all sides, her ears were filled with cries for help. The poor, the ignorant, the destitute, the depraved, the city waifs, mountain whites, Negroes, Chinese, and Japanese made loud appeals to her.

Dr. Morton stated in his third quadrennial report that during the first six years of parsonage work one-half as many houses were built as during the preceding one hundred years. It is true also that during the last quadrennium the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society was in existence (1894-1898) twice as many parsonages were aided as during the previous eight years. Thus as time passed we see a tremendous increase in the number of parsonages built.

In the late eighties and early nineties experience showed as an almost invariable rule that the amount given by the Woman's Society to help build parsonages actually stimulated the people so helped to raise twice as much as the amount granted. This rule, applied, shows that the helping of 241 parsonages prior to 1893 was the means of securing for the Church \$94,037.76 worth of this kind of property. But such a calculation does not include the parsonages reported to have been helped locally by the Auxiliaries. Adding to the number helped by the general work, the 309 parsonages reported to have been helped locally by the Auxiliaries, there were in all 550 parsonages helped by the whole Society. And of the \$41,236.37 special donations raised by the Auxiliaries for local work, probably more than one-half was used in helping to build parsonages to

which these funds were applied. Adding that to the amount granted by the general work, there were about \$52,000 actually invested by the Society in parsonages during the first seven years of its existence. The *direct* effect would make the amount secured over \$114,000. Who can calculate the *indirect* effect?

Although the Woman's Department did not become an independent connectional movement for four years after it was organized the history of the department was that of continual enlargement and development.

It was Miss Helm's determination to make a plea at the General Conference of 1890, through the Board of Church Extension, for the enlargement of the charter for woman's work. Her plan was that, without detaching the name "Parsonage," this organization embrace other forms of home mission work; and while the work of building parsonages should still remain under the supervision of the Board of Church Extension, all other branches of the work should become independent of that board and come under the management of a Central Committee composed of competent women.

She presented her plans for the extension of the work to some of the Church authorities before the General Conference of 1890 convened, but even her staunchest friends thought it an unwise plan, attended with great risks. Again and again she went to the Corresponding Secretary and some of the bishops, trying to show the imperative needs in our Church for a connectional organization known distinctively as home missions; but the objection was presented that the Church was not ready for such an organization. She was told that the Parsonage Society had hardly gotten a sure footing in the Church at that time,

and by moving too fast, and undertaking to enlarge the work to such an extent, she would find it impracticable and calculated to do more harm than good. Despite all this she insisted that it would not interfere with the parsonage work and through perseverance she accomplished her purpose.

Miss Helm's position was that if "home missions" was incorporated in the work of the new organization for parsonage-building and indorsed by the General Conference, all local church societies would become merged into that organization, and thus do away with the objectionable number of societies.

By the act of the General Conference of 1890, the Woman's Department of the Board of Church Extension became a separate organization known as the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, under the control of a Central Committee, with the Board of Church Extension acting as trustee. A large parsonage work was done even while home mission work was enterprised and maintained.

The Central Committee regulated its own proceedings, appropriated money to pay incidental expenses, determined what amount might be donated or loaned to each applicant, raised parsonage loan funds, and transacted any other business which the interest of the Society demanded; provided, however, that it did not involve itself in debt.

The Central Committee held annual meetings in Louisville at the same time that the General Board of Church Extension was in session. Called meetings could be held during the year at such time and place as the committee at its annual meeting appointed, or at such time during the interim as the President and Secretary might determine.

The care and management of all loan funds was left with the Board of Church Extension at the request of the Society, where it was subject to appropriations made by the Central Committee of the Society.

The title to all property, real, personal, or otherwise, was taken and held in the name of the Woman's Home Mission Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a corporation organized under the laws of Mississippi.

The General Board of Church Extension could act as the trustee of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society in all matters of legacies and in holding for it real estate of other trusts, as the Central Committee desired. When this Society was organized in 1890, Mrs. George P. Kendrick, who is still living in Louisville, became the first General Treasurer. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick rendered the most loving and faithful assistance to Miss Helm from the beginning. A room in their beautiful home was consecrated to Church work, and Miss Helm was ever a welcome guest there.

Provision was made for each Conference to organize a Conference Society that would have charge of the work of the Society in the Conference.

The officers of the Conference Society were to constitute an Executive Committee to transact business in the interium of the annual meetings—three members to constitute a quorum.

Conference Societies were not to use the regular funds for any purpose other than procuring parsonages for the pastors, excepting that they could appropriate money to pay incidental expenses.

PARSONAGE LOAN FUND

This fund which was begun in 1887 has been handled by the Board of Church Extension for the Woman's Home Mission Society. There are many beautiful and touching memories clustering about these funds. They are hidden from the general view, but enter into the ultimate good accomplished by the funds as loaned and reloaned to house those who preach the Gospel to others. The Preachers' Wives' Loan Fund was contributed for the most part by the wives and widows of the preachers of our Church. The Angel Band Loan Fund was contributed in memory of the children of love and hope that had been taken from loving arms to the skies. These two funds alone constitute one-half of the total Parsonage Loan Fund. The labor of love and self-denial of our good women, who have done such thorough and effective work in parsonage building, is worthy of all praise. They have full credit for what has already been done, and will have large interest in all that may be done in the future in this department of our work.

As stated previously, the Parsonage Loan Fund has been administered by the Board of Church Extension from the outset. The action of the General Conference of 1910 was as follows:

"We recommend that the building of parsonages carried heretofore by the Woman's Home Mission Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, be transferred to the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and that the Parsonage Loan Fund, \$35,110.48, now held by the Woman's Home Mission Society, be transferred to the Board of Church Extension to be maintained and administered as heretofore as a Parsonage Loan Fund."

Of the above \$35,110.48 which was ordered transferred, \$9,798.58 belonged to the City Mission and Educational Endowment Fund of the Woman's Home Mission Society, and was held by this Board in trust for the Woman's Council of the Board of Missions until July 20, 1918, when it was returned to them at their request. The remaining \$25,311.90 has been added to our Loan Fund Capital.

At the General Conference of 1910 the Woman's Board of Home Missions was merged with the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society into the Woman's Missionary Council. The same General Conference ordered the building of parsonages heretofore carried on by the Woman's Home Mission Society transferred to the Board of Church Extension.

Emphasis should be placed on the fact that the body which was originally organized as the Woman's Department of the Board of Church Extension with only meager beginnings was able to raise in less than a quarter of a century for connectional work \$1,219,579.89 and for local work \$2,045,574.28, or a total of \$3,265,154.17.

IX

ARCHITECTURE

THE lasting success of the Board of Church Extension was destined in a measure to depend upon the kind and quality of buildings in which its funds were invested. That the realization of this truth was impressed strongly upon the Board is evidenced by its early recognition of the need for some kind of architectural guidance. Before the Board convened for the first time in annual session (1883) the Corresponding Secretary had, by direction, concluded arrangements with his acquaintance and personal friend, Dr. A. J. Kynett, the Secretary of the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by which their plans for churches and parsonages could be bought through our Board at the same prices and on the same terms as of them. These plans were commended in strong terms by those who had used them, and by some of our most experienced builders, to whom they were submitted for examination. Each plan had drawings, specifications, and estimates, and along with it a contract to be signed by the builders. It was stated that "building committees can well afford to buy these plans for their general suggestions, even though they may not be followed in all their details."

The Board printed for its own use a special edition of the catalogue of these plans, and distributed several hundred copies. This volume contained more than 600 pages, and pictured in great numbers floor plans and perspectives

of both churches and parsonages. The architectural style of most of the designs differs as widely from the generally accepted styles today as our present modes of dress differ from those of fifty years ago. But we must not discount in any way the genuine service to the Church that was rendered by the distribution and use of approved plan material. It was a definite mark of progress in the ascending scale of architecture of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as well as the country at large. The general adoption of these plans was encouraged as a means of improving church edifices, inasmuch as safety, economy, healthfulness, and appearance in church-building have always been promoted by a right observance of architectural principles.

As these plans were distributed they had a decided influence in arousing sentiment for a better type of church building throughout the Church. During the second quadrennium, ending in 1890, two hundred and fifty-eight sets of blue-prints were sold, an increase of one hundred and forty-seven over the number sold during the preceding quadrennium. Thus the beginning of a new era in church architecture was heralded by our people.

Along with the development of church plans came recognition of the necessity for properly located lots of appropriate size. As early as 1887 the Board was impressing upon all churches applying for aid the necessity of securing building lots that were ample in size as well as convenient in location, and soon thereafter it announced that these factors would weigh much in making appropriations.

From the first the Corresponding Secretary was convinced that it was the duty of the Board to provide in

every way possible for the building of better church houses. He advocated the policy of going further than giving and lending money. When the Board appropriated money to help build a church he opposed leaving entirely to the judgment of the building committee the selection of plans and the choice of a lot. Then, even as now, building committees could not be expected to erect houses of worship that would be patterns either of beauty or utility without the aid of an architect or other competent adviser. Beyond the limits of large cities, church architecture was almost unknown when the Board of Church Extension began its work. The Corresponding Secretary was quick to see the lack of wisdom in giving money to build churches that were badly adapted to their intended use. He stated emphatically that an improvement in the architecture of our houses of worship was one of the prime ends to be sought.

These three principles thus early established—good building plans, lots of ample size properly located, and insurance on all buildings—became the settled policy of the Board and operated as a tremendous influence in bettering the character of church buildings throughout the connection. Today, more than ever, beauty and utility are being considered in planning and building churches. Our newer churches possess qualities that are superior to those of a half century ago, but they should be, for the field of scientific knowledge about building has been enlarged greatly within recent years. Furthermore, there is no occasion for exultation unless the continuous advocacy of a constructive policy for fifty years really accomplishes something worth while.

Here is more evidence from early records to attest the sound judgment of our fathers.

In 1909 the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. McMurry, was requested by vote of the Board to publish, if found practicable, a modern book of church and parsonage plans representing buildings of moderate cost. In his report one year later he said:

"I have found difficulty in securing material for such a catalogue. The best architects are slow to place before the public in such form the results of their labors. I have, however, to report that at last I have secured the promise of Mr. George W. Kramer, No. 1 Madison Avenue, New York, to prepare me a catalogue of church plans of buildings costing from \$2,000 to \$20,000, and a smaller catalogue of plans for more expensive buildings. The office assumes no responsibility, but agrees to place a copy of the catalogue in the hands of committees who are undertaking to build new churches—the committees to deal directly with Mr. Kramer in securing plans and specifications. There will be no difficulty in providing a catalogue of parsonage plans, but I do not think there is any real need for same, as in almost every community there are numerous illustrations in the form of existing buildings of comfortable residences of almost any price a committee is prepared to build."

While he was Secretary, Dr. McMurry studied the architectural problem carefully for several years. His own words give testimony to this fact:

"I started out with the purpose of making the *Hand Book*, not simply a report of the operations of the Board, but also of service to the brethren in planning churches by

submitting to them samples of the work of church architects, throughout the country."

He sought to know the field; to aid the brethren who had had heavy tasks to perform; to create and circulate literature; to improve the forms used, and also the methods of work; and to make the office a medium of communication between our people and the sources of best information upon the subject of church architecture and allied subjects pertaining to building enterprises.

After laboring faithfully to place our people in communication with architects he expressed doubt about the extent of the accomplishment. He hoped to devise some means that would enable the office to handle this work without the services of a man selected for the particular duties that would naturally be associated with it, but concluded that such a program would not be possible. Personally he was overloaded with work already. Furthermore, the architectural need of the Church was great enough to command the time of a competent man for that special field.

When Dr. McMurry concluded his report on Architecture with the words, "We owe it to our people to render this service," he was prepared to follow up his advocacy of such a policy by offering to suggest the names of one or more men whom he believed to be eminently qualified for the work he had outlined, provided it was the wisdom of the Board to establish a department of architecture.

In 1917 the Committee on Organization indorsed the plans for the construction of churches recommended to the Department of Architecture of this Board by the Commission on Architecture and recommended that in the de-

velopment of the Department the Executive Committee be authorized to employ a competent man to assist the Corresponding Secretary, and fix his salary.

Acting upon this authority, the Executive Committee elected Rev. J. A. Baylor, a member of the Board since 1914, a Methodist pastor, and a practical architect, to the position of Architectural Secretary. Dr. Baylor began his work November 1, 1917, and pressed it enthusiastically and intelligently until the autumn of 1924. He gave special attention to architects throughout the Church, providing them with exact information needed to bring their work into harmony with the ideals of the Church, and placed in the hands of building committees such information as would enable them to reach intelligent conclusions as to what was best for them to undertake in the way of a building adapted to the needs of the congregation.

When Dr. Baylor joined the staff of the Board of Church Extension he began at once to analyze the needs in the field of Church Architecture and to anticipate the possibilities for service throughout the Connection of this newly formed department. He was peculiarly adapted to the new duties which had been committed to his charge. It is not surprising that under his direction the volume of work increased rapidly and the department expanded to meet the demand of the Church for architectural guidance. This guidance included the services of full architectural practice.

Shortly after the department was established Dr. Baylor began to prepare plans and specifications for the use of numerous congregations where the services of an architect could not be secured. Later he enlarged the field of service of the department by preparing plans and speci-

cations and supervising the construction of larger buildings, many of which were of considerable magnitude, so that his work was widely recognized throughout our Connection and among other denominations as well. Some of our sister denominations felt the need of such service as we were rendering, and some of them sought to unite with us in working out the problems of church architecture. It was the judgment of the Board that this Department should be a permanent part of the work of Church Extension.

During the first six months from November 1, 1917, to April 30, 1918, there was, despite the effect of the World War, abundant evidence of the need for such a department. Letters calling for plans, suggestions, sketches, and architectural advice, were numerous, coming from eighteen different states and some foreign countries. Frequently these inquiries were of such a nature as to entail a considerable correspondence, elaborate sketches, and in some cases the making of plans and the writing of specifications. In every instance it was the aim of the Department to secure the adaptation of buildings to the needs of the modern church.

The extensive correspondence with architects in different parts of the country showed that with few exceptions these professional men were in need of more exact and complete information as to the purposes of the modern church building and the needs to be served by it.

Quite a number of carefully considered plans for churches, of varying grades and costs, were printed in the form of folders suitable for sending to pastors and committees desiring suggestions. The majority of the illustrations were the work of different architects who co-operated

with the Board to the extent of adapting their plans to the ideas of the Church, and preparing their work in a manner suitable for reproduction. A few of the plans came from the Bureau of Architecture of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a few were produced in our Department. These plans were illustrated in folders so they would be convenient for distribution.

The indorsement of the Committee on Organization read as follows:

"We think it well for all of our people who contemplate building churches or parsonages to consult Dr. Baylor as to plans and specifications."

The Department of Architecture was organized to meet a church-wide need. There was a general feeling that the Board of Church Extension should in some way prescribe the plans for buildings which were erected by the aid of its funds. The past has revealed the failure of many to realize the full benefit that might be derived from an appropriation because of inadequate drawings. In recent years the enlarged program of the Church has introduced outstanding changes in the arrangement and equipment of church and church school buildings, which has made it requisite to safeguard against the adoption of plans that are poorly suited to community needs. As never before a modern building for Christian education includes equipment that will house satisfactorily a constructive program of Christian training. It is the adoption of this type of church and especially church school building that is being advocated by the General Board of Christian Education and the Board of Church Extension through the Joint Committee on Architecture.

It is important to note the increased emphasis which has

come to be placed upon the church school and the work of training old and young in worship and in Christian living.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARCHITECTURE

At the Annual Meeting in 1917, Dr. McMurry referred to a communication from the General Sunday School Board that had been presented the year before to the Board of Church Extension. The communication stated that in July, 1915, the General Sunday School Board had approved the establishment of a department of architecture by the Board of Church Extension and pledged its co-operation, and that in order to make the co-operation effectual, it requested the Board of Church Extension to designate a certain number of persons, who, together with a like representation of their own, should constitute a commission to study and recommend plans of churches that were adapted to modern Sunday school work.

Before the adjournment of the Board of Church Extension that year a Committee on Architecture was named, comprising T. L. Jefferson, J. A. Baylor, and W. F. McMurry. In due time the Joint Commission composed of representatives from the General Sunday School Board and the Board of Church Extension assembled for their first meeting. A part of the official minutes of that meeting are significant.

MEETING OF COMMISSION ON ARCHITECTURE

The members gathered at the Publishing House, Nashville, Tennessee, on the morning of March 6, 1917. Those present were W. F. McMurry, J. A. Baylor, E. B. Chappell, J. W. Shackford, and C. D. Bulla. Mr. T. L. Jefferson was absent on account of illness.

Dr. McMurry was elected chairman and Dr. Bulla, secretary.

Miss Minnie E. Kennedy, Superintendent of the Elementary Departments of the Sunday School Board, was invited to sit with the Commission.

The chairman and secretary announced the separate action of the two Boards as follows:

"On May 6, 1916, the General Sunday School Board adopted a paper which read:

"'Inasmuch as at the meeting of the General Sunday School Board in July, 1915, the Board approved the establishment by the Board of Church Extension of a Department of Architecture and pledged its co-operation; therefore, in order to make this co-operation effectual, we request that the Board of Church Extension designate three representatives, who, together with a like number of representatives to be appointed by the General Sunday School Board, shall constitute a commission, in order that the said commission may study and recommend plans to the Board of Church Extension for the construction of churches adapted to modern Sunday school work.'"

Three days later the Board of Church Extension took similar action.

Then, as now, a vast amount of money was being unwisely expended in church buildings which did not meet the demands of modern Sunday school work. The Akron plan and other similar plans, which were still used extensively and which served during a transitional period in the development of modern Sunday school ideals, were outgrown. There was need for an ideal church plan that would provide for all the work of a completely organized departmental Sunday school. That need included:

"1. An auditorium for public worship, for the worship services of the adult classes, and for all general Sunday school gatherings.

"2. A separate assembly room for the Beginner Department.

"3. A separate assembly room, with rooms for classes or grades grouped about it, for each of the following departments: Primary, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior.

"4. Separate rooms for the adult classes.

"Where the attainment of this ideal is not practicable the separate classrooms may be omitted in the Primary Department, and one assembly room may serve for the Intermediate and Senior Departments.

"Where provision cannot be made for all the departments, the needs of the lowest grades should have first consideration. This plan is simple and does not necessarily involve a large expenditure of money."

There was a general discussion and a vote taken that resulted in certain commitments and the adoption of three resolutions. The affirmative vote on these matters definitely typed the buildings that were to be raised upon their foundations for years to come. It was voted:

"1. That in the statement sent out by this Commission, we recognize the departmentally organized Sunday school as the basis of our recommendations in regard to church architecture.

"2. That we approve the general principles set forth in the paper adopted by the General Sunday School Board July 12, 1916.

"3. *Resolved*, That we prepare a statement explaining the space demands of the typical school of a given size,

together with such explanations in regard to special conditions as may be necessary.

"4. *Resolved*, That we recommend the preparation of a number of suggested plans of churches for various types of community conditions, and

"5. *Resolved*, That we recommend to the General Board of Church Extension and the various Conference Boards of Church Extension, that as far as practicable they withhold assistance for the erection of churches that do not conform in their architecture to the general principles adopted by this Commission."

The Commission adjourned.

The action taken on these matters had a definite bearing upon the programs of Christian education that were to be advanced during the next decade.

The appointment of a Joint Committee on Architecture had been agreed upon by the two co-operating Boards. It functioned in a rather restricted way until action was taken by the General Conference in 1922, that definitely recognized its value by granting authority for the creation of such a body. It should be stated that at this time the representation from each Board was increased from three to five.

The Discipline says that "the Board shall elect five persons, who, together with five representatives elected by the General Sunday School Board, shall constitute a Joint Committee on Church and Sunday School Architecture. Said committee shall have authority to prepare standards for the co-operating Boards. The committee shall also be authorized, under such provisions as the Boards may agree upon, to offer advice and guidance to the Church in the erection of church and Sunday school buildings.

“The Conference Board may elect a committee, one of whom may be the President of the Conference Board, which, together with a like committee of the Conference Sunday School Board, shall constitute a Joint Committee on Architecture, whose duties it shall be to promote the standards of church and Sunday school architecture provided by the Joint Committee on Architecture from the General Sunday School Board and the Board of Church Extension.”

The Joint Committee on Architecture met frequently. Eventually, three booklets were published, bearing the title, *Architectural Requirements for Church and Sunday School Buildings*, which were in harmony with the graded Programs of Work that had been prepared by the General Sunday School Board and were being very generally adopted by the great mass of our Sunday schools throughout the South. These booklets dealt with the large city church, the suburban church, and the small village or country church.

When the Executive Committee of the Board met in March, 1924, a question was raised about the exact method of procedure to be used in the approval of plans. A letter prepared by Dr. Baylor was read, discussed, and adopted with a slight amendment as expressing the general viewpoint of the Joint Committee at its meeting the preceding January. Dr. Ellis pointed out a difficulty in the procedure that had been followed in the past. The custom had been to send blue-prints from the Louisville office to Nashville, where the indorsement of the several members of the Commission had to be secured before they were approved.

These difficulties will be understood more clearly in the



REV. T. D. ELLIS, D.D.
SECRETARY, 1922-Present

light of some of the rules governing the placing of funds by the Board of Church Extension. As a precaution one of the conditions named in all the application forms was that the congregation to receive aid must have plans prepared by a competent architect. At the Annual Meeting in 1923, it was further ruled that "the Secretary shall require the plans of all churches, to which grants of either donations or loans are made, to be submitted to the Department of Architecture of the Board of Church Extension for approval. Should the plans be unsatisfactory, it is made his duty to suspend payment of the grant until the plans are changed to conform to the suggestions of the Department of Architecture."

Reference to these rules indicates that in some cases friction could have developed between the Board of Church Extension and the congregations seeking aid, as a result of delay in passing upon plans which were submitted for approval because the payment of grants was withheld until the plans were in proper shape. Dr. Ellis explained that under the action taken by the General Conference in creating a Joint Commission to formulate standards for church and Sunday school building which, when approved by the co-operating Boards were to govern the criticism of plans in this office, it was not the proper business of the Commission as such to pass upon every individual plan. Two principal objections to this were set forth:

First, the impracticability of it in very many cases. Our offices were widely separated at Louisville and Nashville. Necessarily, a great number of plans had to be examined, and in many cases there was need for prompt action. The members of the Joint Commission were scattered, and busy with many other affairs, and on this account could

not always give prompt attention to plans. Inasmuch as the submission of plans for criticism was obligatory on the part of this Board, it was evident that the Board of Church Extension would be subject to just criticism if it did not attend to this matter with due promptness and dispatch.

Second, while conceding that the Joint Commission as a whole should fix the educational standards which were to be wrought out in the architecture of our church and Sunday school buildings, the Secretary believed that the only proper place for the final approval of plans was in the Architectural Department of the Board of Church Extension. That Board maintained such a department on a large scale, had an office thoroughly equipped for that work, and had correspondence and business and professional relations with architects all over the country.

This view did not preclude frequent conferences between members of the Commission as to plans in general, and as to particular plans, where time would permit, and as often as opportunity might allow. The value of joint study, and the discussion of various points from time to time was recognized, and there was no disposition to interfere with it in the least, but it was important that definite authority should be lodged with someone finally to approve or disapprove a given plan. Inasmuch as the Board of Church Extension was charged with the handling of large funds for church buildings, was concerned with the building program of the Church, and was assuming the responsibility for maintaining an architectural office, there was strong feeling that this authority should be lodged here.

No one had the slightest disposition to set aside any of

the standards which had been adopted. In fact some impatience was manifested to get these standards definitely formulated and approved by our Boards so they would be ready for publication. At the close of his letter Dr. Baylor stated:

"In every case that has arisen Dr. Ellis has backed these standards with his authority. I see no conflict between his views and the purpose which we have all had in mind from the beginning, and by cordial co-operation I was sure that the purpose of the General Conference could be fully realized."

The Department of Architecture of the Board of Church Extension was then vested with authority to act as spokesman for the Joint Committee in examining, criticizing, and approving plans.

A close relationship was, and is yet, maintained with the central staff and some of the field workers of the General Board of Christian Education—which is successor to the General Sunday School Board—in order to produce in new and remodeled buildings religious educational equipment of the highest order. A constant effort is made to improve upon older plans and to lay increasing emphasis upon the importance of building new churches that do not belie their purpose. A building that is erected for church worship should *look like a church*.

In May, 1924, the Committee that analyzed Section 5 of the Secretary's report recommended that the Executive Committee be authorized to make appropriations from time to time to pay for educational and promotive work. Furthermore, plans for churches unable to pay for them, together with such other items of expense as the Committee

judged necessary to the efficiency of the Department, were to be cared for by appropriation.

It was at this Annual Meeting in 1924 that Dr. Baylor presented his resignation as Architectural Secretary to become effective the following October. After very earnest consultation and thoughtful consideration the resignation was accepted but not without due recognition and appreciation of the efficient services which he had rendered. The committee commended the excellent work of Dr. Baylor and expressed for the Board a very high appreciation of his endeavors while serving in the special capacity for which he had been chosen. They rejoiced in the great degree of efficiency to which the Department had come during the years of his incumbency and reported that "his name and genius will live in the ever-growing and widening work of church building in our Zion. We part with him with great regret, and assure him of the high esteem in which he shall ever be held by us as a Board."

The fact that he was elected to membership in the American Institute of Architects is recognition by the architectural profession that he was qualified to discharge the duties of his office. There are many evidences that attest his ability to direct the affairs of the Department of Architecture.

When Dr. Baylor resigned it was recommended that a suitable person be secured at the earliest possible moment to take the place made vacant by his resignation, and the Executive Committee was authorized to employ such a person when found.

Early in the summer of 1924, Mr. H. M. King was secured for the summer months. He was employed with

the understanding that if his services to the Board and the relation he sustained there should prove to be mutually satisfactory, he would be nominated as Secretary of the Architectural Department.

Three months later (September 24), Dr Ellis brought his nomination before the Board and received its approval.

(Mr. King resigned his position with the State College, at Fargo, North Dakota, where he was Professor of Architecture and head of the Department of Architecture, in order to enter upon his duties as Architectural Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, October 1, 1924. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects. His background is one of extended professional training and devotion to his Church.—*T. D. Ellis.*)

The functions of the Department may be said to be threefold—educational, consultary, and professional. In reality its entire program is educational. A constant effort is exerted to secure a more general acceptance of good architecture throughout the Church. Courses on Church Building and Equipment are offered at various training schools for pastors and church school workers, literature is published for distribution, new suggestive plans are prepared and printed for circulation and articles written for the Church press.

The Department consults with pastors and laymen and co-operates with numerous architects who are engaged by Methodist people. The Architect-Secretary responds to numerous calls from the field and makes recommendations for altering and enlarging old church buildings and erecting new ones.

The Department co-operates with building committees

in a professional way by preparing preliminary sketches, and if the committee desires, by helping in the selection of a local architect who will develop the working plans. In addition to preparing sketches the Department makes final drawings, including all plans, elevations, details, and specifications that are necessary for the erection of a building by general contract or otherwise. The supervision of buildings under construction is often undertaken through the offices of the Board.

A skilled and competent organization has been maintained and many enterprises of importance and magnitude have been handled. The kind and quality of service rendered has continued to receive the indorsement of noteworthy authorities. Some specific aims are:

“(1) To furnish competent and interested architects throughout our bounds with information necessary to guide them in preparing plans to meet the needs of the Church.

“(2) To secure wherever possible the intelligent cooperation of these architects in an improved building program.

“(3) To direct pastors and building committees to the architects prepared to give them the best service.

“(4) To supply building committees throughout the Church with suggestions for plans of churches and parsonages, advice pertaining to building contracts, information about church furniture and equipment, and general problems concerning the construction of the church.

“(5) To prepare sketches, plans, and specifications for churches and parsonages when called upon to render this service.”

The present ideals of the Department regarding the lo-

cation of site, the architecture of the building, the church auditorium, or "sanctuary," and the equipment for Christian education are quite like those of the Board during its earliest stages of development. It may be said that the location of a church goes a long way toward determining its success or failure. In deciding on a location the currents of community life must be studied as carefully as the department store, and for the same reason. Each is a failure unless it gets the people. Many instances can be pointed out where churches have been failures from the beginning because, for some fancied advantage of price, or to please some influential member of the congregation, the location selected was not in easy reach of the human tide flowing to and fro in that community. The best advice is to build the church where the people will come to it.

Let it be kept in mind that the appearance of a building is determined almost as much by its surroundings as by the building itself. The most tastefully planned church may be utterly marred by a wrong setting, by being hid away between other buildings, or surrounded by factories or shops, or jammed into the side of a hill. Noisy surroundings are to be avoided. Study the matter of location from every angle.

It is well, too, in locating the church to look forward some years. What is sufficient for a site now might be quite insufficient if the congregation should be under the necessity of rebuilding or enlarging later. Many otherwise very desirable sites have had to be abandoned for this one reason. Also, remember that, as in the case of the public school, the modern church with departmental or-

ganization of the church school demands a larger ground area than the more compact buildings of former days.

It may be said that once a church was only a box with a steeple but now it is a highly complex building problem to tax the best architectural ingenuity. Dignity and beauty are essential to a church and the sacred character of the building should be clearly evident. The architecture of the church should be of such a religious nature as to challenge attention and inspire devotion.

Numbers of churches built within the last twenty-five years had only a sanctuary (auditorium), or a sanctuary and a Sunday school auditorium. Now, the same church is likely to possess a sanctuary and a chapel; a social or fellowship hall; separate quarters for the nursery and beginner pupils, class and assembly rooms for primary pupils, juniors, intermediates, seniors, and young people, and other educational equipment; a pastor's study, general church offices, lounges for men and women, and Scout rooms; storage space, coat rooms, kitchens, a gymnasium, bowling alleys, and other facilities for athletics; efficient plumbing, heating, ventilating, and electrical equipment; and some special acoustical treatment.

"Religious architecture has always been the highest expression of the art of a people," so among all buildings we may expect it to represent the best efforts of man. Although one style may be more appropriate than another, the greatest significance need not be attached to the use of the Gothic or the Colonial as such, but to the value one or the other may have in giving proper expression to a House of God. Either of these styles is widely accepted today and may be used with success.

Wayne G. Miller's conception of Church Architecture is fitting here.

"The element of truth should be expressed in every portion. False stone work, imitation granite, or imitation anything, should be taboo. There is increasing impatience with the current practice of erecting churches in imitation of those built before concrete, structural steel, or other modern building products were available. Let the church be built of modern materials, erected according to modern construction methods, and its design based on present-day possibilities, transcending the limitations which bound architects and craftsmen of the Middle Ages.

"To consider the present state of church building is to state the opportunity which the architect faces when asked to design a church. He may erect a monument to his own artistry; he may contribute immeasurably to the architectural beauty of his community; he may discover new principles of design which will be used in churches throughout the world and give their author immortality. The very unsettled state of this practice opens the way for monumental achievement.

"Too many designers conceive ecclesiastical architecture as essentially Gothic, in imitation of European cathedrals, or Georgian, in more or less authentic imitation of the work of Sir Christopher Wren, with a remote possibility of Classic, or Byzantine, or Spanish Colonial as alternatives. True, there is no occasion for a too abrupt break with the architectural patterns of the past; they lend validity and continuity to what we build now.

"But too few architects are making outstanding contributions of their own original resourcefulness to the church architecture of America. Some day someone will build

such a church as will retain the richness and charm of the ancient traditions and at the same time face positively toward the richer future; that is what Wren and the early Gothicists did. Some day someone will dream a church, and will translate that dream into a composition which will make him worthy of sainthood."

The latest material that has been published by the Board of Church Extension and the General Board of Christian Education and recommended to the Church after protracted consideration by the Joint Committee on Architecture is a thirty-two page booklet issued in September, 1931, setting forth *Architectural Regulations for Church and Church School Buildings for the Eight Department Building and the Seven Department Building*, and a recapitulation of these requirements in a six-page folder.

While this printed material is arranged for the fully departmentalized school with classrooms, it anticipates and to some extent provides for grade rooms.

X

OTHER PHASES OF CHURCH EXTENSION WORK

ATTORNEYS FOR THE BOARD

AMONG the attorneys for the Board appears the name of Mr. W. F. Barclay, who for thirteen years was a member of the Board and associated with the office as Assistant Secretary. On August 31, 1906, he resigned his position in order to engage in other business, but was continued as attorney for the Board at a salary mutually agreed upon between himself and the Corresponding Secretary. This salary was paid for two months; then Mr. Barclay declined to receive further compensation on the ground that he was not rendering sufficient service to earn it.

Other attorneys who have been retained for counsel have been W. F. McMurry, Jr., Joseph S. Laurent, and W. W. Downing.

DEPOSITORY OF THE BOARD

At a called meeting of the Board (May 12, 1883) the Central National Bank of Danville, Kentucky, was selected as the depository of its funds. Later when the charter of this bank expired, and its affairs had been put in liquidation and were being closed, it was ordered, April 9, 1885, that the Boyle National Bank, of Danville, Kentucky, be designated as the bank in which the Treasurer should deposit all funds belonging to the Board. We are not certain why a bank in Danville was selected, but it is

supposed that it was done partly for the convenience of the first Treasurer, John W. Proctor, whose home was there. This enabled him to expedite the affairs which he handled and to guard the funds of the Board more closely.

At the time of Mr. Proctor's death Mr. Ouerbacker, a resident of Louisville, became Treasurer of the Board of Church Extension. On January 31, 1895, the Fidelity Trust and Safety Vault Company of Louisville was designated as the depository of the Board. This was done to provide for the convenient transaction of the business of the Board nearer its principal office. At the same time it was resolved that the balance on hand in the Boyle National Bank should remain there until same was exhausted by draft made thereon in the ordinary course of business.

By authority of the Executive Committee the account of this Board was changed from the Fidelity Trust Company of Louisville to the United States Trust Company on August 1, 1906, where it has remained to the present time. The change was occasioned by the fact that the account had never drawn interest on daily balances. A statement was submitted to two of the strongest and most conservative trust companies in St. Louis, and to three of the leading financial institutions in Louisville, and none of them offered less than two per cent on daily balances. At the Quarterly meeting held November 8, 1906, the Board confirmed the action of the Executive Committee.

BONDING OF OFFICERS

SIGNING OF DRAFTS

As a matter of precaution and safety it was the policy of the Board for years to require the signatures both of

the President (or in his absence, the Vice-President) and the Corresponding Secretary on all drafts drawn for the disbursement of funds. In 1907 it was reported to the Board as manifestly unfair to the President to require him to share the responsibility of signing drafts, when, in the very nature of the case, he was not in a position to know whether conditions for payment of the funds had been met, and he could not be expected to remember each individual grant made by the Board.

On motion of Bishop Hendrix, the President was relieved of this responsibility, which was placed entirely on the Corresponding Secretary, and it was ordered that the latter be placed under bond in the amount of \$10,000 for the faithful performance of his duties, the cost of the bond to be borne by the Board.

In June, 1918, the amount of the bond was increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000. Later it was the consensus of opinion that the Secretary's bond should be increased even more, so at an Executive Committee meeting, June 22, 1920, the amount was fixed at \$40,000; then \$100 was made available to cover the premium.

June 27, 1922, the President called attention to what he believed to be the advantages of a bond covering several of the positions in the office of the Board, including that of the Secretary, as against the plan then in vogue, making the Secretary the only bonded officer. This suggestion was agreed to, and a bond covering the position of President for \$5,000; Vice-President, \$5,000; Secretary, \$50,000; Assistant Secretary, \$30,000; Bookkeeper, \$5,000; and Assistant Bookkeeper, \$5,000, or a total of \$100,000, was authorized.

At a meeting on March 26, 1920, the Executive Com-

mittee passed a resolution requiring two names on drafts, thus changing the policy established in 1907 as recorded above. This action needed to be approved and made the permanent policy of the Board, so at a called meeting, June 23, 1920, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the drafts of this Board, in addition to the signatures of the Executive Officer, the Secretary, shall contain also the signature of another officer of the Board, either President, Vice-President, Treasurer, or Assistant Secretary."

On January 27, 1922, the President called attention to the inconvenience and embarrassment occasioned frequently by the existing plan, which was put in action by the resolution quoted above. After making a careful study of the case he recommended a change in the existing policy so as to require the signatures of *any* two of the following: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary, good, sufficient, and necessary on all drafts and checks not exceeding \$1,000, and the name of the Secretary, together with that of the President, or the Vice-President, or the Assistant Secretary, good, sufficient, and necessary on all drafts and checks above \$1,000. The recommendation was approved.

On March 23, 1931, the Executive Committee instructed the United States Trust Company, the Citizens Union National Bank, and the First National Bank, all of Louisville, Kentucky, to pay all checks and drafts of the Board only when they were signed by T. D. Ellis, Secretary, and countersigned by R. N. Allen, Assistant Secretary, or J. W. Johnson, President.

BULLETIN

In 1893 it was announced that the Board of Church Ex-

tension had authorized the publication of a quarterly periodical in the interest of the cause of Church Extension in our Church. In July a paper was printed under the name of *Church Extension Bulletin*.

The *Bulletin* was the official organ of the Board of Church Extension. It contained in each issue the financial report of the Secretary and Treasurer for the preceding quarter, and such matters of business transacted at the stated meetings of the Board as were of general interest. Each year the May number contained the proceedings of the annual meeting and all other matter usually contained in the annual reports of the Board.

The *Bulletin* was not by any means confined in its scope to the publication of official matter as indicated above. The desire was to make it a medium of communication between different parts of the field upon all matters pertaining to the extension of Christ's Kingdom; a gazette of church-building news, and a repository of the best thought of writers and speakers on the subjects within its sphere. To this end communications from the friends of the Board were invited from all parts of the field. Anyone who had dedicated a new church; paid off an ugly old church or parsonage debt; repaired or refurnished his church; been aided and blessed in the receipt of help from Church Extension funds and felt like saying "Thank you," and collected his Church Extension assessment in full; was requested to write and tell the *Bulletin* about it. The space in the paper was limited, so news had to be brief.

It appears that the *Bulletin* was published for seven years, being discontinued with the February issue, 1899. The *Bulletin* appeared in May, August, November, and February of each fiscal year and was edited jointly by

the Corresponding Secretary and the Assistant Secretary, with the exception of the May, 1898, issue which was edited by Wilbur F. Barclay after the death of Dr. Morton. The subscription price for the first year was twenty-five cents, and thereafter twenty cents per annum.

LITERATURE

After Dr. McMurry had served as Secretary for a short time he felt the lack of literature bearing upon the subject of Church Extension. The calls for it had increased from the beginning. To meet this demand, the usual *Church Extension Report* was enlarged to a 185-page *Hand Book*, and an edition of 8,500 copies published. A copy was sent to all the traveling preachers and to many laymen. These *Church Extension Hand Books* have been continued throughout the years and have been of great value.

In 1916 Bishop E. E. Hoss wrote a book on the life of David Morton. Mrs. Hannah Morton, the widow of the first Corresponding Secretary, was desirous of publishing an edition of 1,000 copies of this biography at her own expense. After retaining for distribution such part of the edition as she wished, she placed the remainder in the hands of the Board of Church Extension, to be used at their discretion. About the same time the Board placed an order with the printers for five thousand volumes. Very few copies were sold, but a volume was sent with the compliments of the Board to each pastor in the Church who reported to the office that he had paid his Church Extension assessment in full during that conference year. Copies were sent, also, to the members of the Conference Boards of Church Extension, the preachers admitted on

trial, and others. The book was published under the imprint of the Board of Church Extension.

In 1918 an edition of five thousand copies of the volume, *Alpheus W. Wilson, A Prince in Israel*, by Rev. C. D. Harris, D.D., of the Baltimore Conference, was published. This book furnished a good account of the life and work of Bishop Wilson. Copies were sent to all pastors raising their Church Extension assessment in full during that Conference year, members of the Conference Board of Church Extension, and the superannuated preachers of the Church. This required some three thousand volumes. The remaining volumes of the edition were offered for sale at one dollar each. The Executive Committee instructed that the amount received on sale of the book be placed in the A. W. Wilson Loan Fund.

PLACE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS

During the administration of Dr. McMurry several of the Annual Meetings were held in cities other than Louisville where the Board maintained its headquarters. In 1908 the Board met at St. Joseph, Missouri; 1909, at Memphis, Tennessee; 1911, at Richmond, Virginia; 1913, at Dallas, Texas; 1914, at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; 1915, at St. Louis, Missouri; and 1918, at Atlanta, Georgia. In all of these cities the members received a hearty welcome and opportunity was afforded for the presentation of the cause of Church Extension to large and interested congregations.

All other Annual Meetings of the Board have been held in Louisville.

OFFICE RECORDS

It was with satisfaction that the Corresponding Secre-

tary, Dr. McMurry, called the attention of the Board in 1909 to improvements made in the records of the office. Hitherto a system of cards was used, containing the names, location, and so forth, of all the churches helped by the several Conference Boards and the General Board. Upon these cards were entered in pencil the amounts thus donated or loaned. Each year the figures were so changed as to represent the total amounts up to the close of the current year. No dates were given, and no indication of the various grants made. This method was altogether inadequate and unsatisfactory on account of its lack of permanency and increasing liability to errors. The office needed such a record as would contain in permanent form a complete history of all the grants, whether by the General or Conference Boards, made to all churches; a record in fact that would reveal the name, location, and date of every grant, the total number of grants by both General and Conference Boards, the net number of churches aided by either the General or Conference Boards, the net number aided by both Boards, together with the amounts for the year and the grand totals to the close of any year. Such a record Dr. McMurry had made to order. It was a loose-leaf book, capable of almost indefinite expansion. Anyone without adequate experience could not understand the amount of labor and time required to gather the material, enter the items in the book in order, and complete the work. The pages were so constructed that when the entries for the year were made and their totals obtained, and added to the grand totals for the previous years, it gave without further calculation all the figures needed for the *Hand Book*.

To make the system more complete, so that one might

refer instantly to the entire history of all transactions that any particular church had had with either this or the Conference Boards, and so that all data would be ready for transfer to the General Record the instant the year closed, a card system was installed for reference and for convenience. This entire work was done under the direction of Dr. McMurry.

THE OFFICES OF THE BOARD

At the General Conference of 1910 the Committee on Church Extension made a report asking for the offices of the Board of Church Extension to be changed from Louisville, Kentucky, to Dallas, Texas. It was emphasized that Louisville was situated almost at the Northern extremity of our Methodist holdings, and that it could administer more easily and perhaps more effectively to the churches in the Connection if it were moved to a point farther south. Therefore, it was resolved that the headquarters be changed to Dallas, Texas, provided, first, that all property and charter rights could be protected, and that the City of Dallas furnish suitable offices and headquarters free of cost to the Board.

It was further resolved that the question be referred to the General Board of Church Extension with instructions to investigate the matter and after careful consideration of its legal status, the pecuniary inducements and all available points offered, to report to the next General Conference its recommendations on the subject.

By 1914 it was reported that no definite proposition had reached the Board looking to the removal of its headquarters during the quadrennium, though there had been considerable discussion of the matter in some quarters.

Therefore, in the absence of a definite proposition no change was made.

EXAMINATION OF CHARTER

In 1915 Judge Edward C. O'Rear was asked to examine the charter of the Board of Church Extension. Among other things the report of his investigations included the following:

"The property of the Board is exempted by the Charter from taxation.

"It is difficult to conceive of a more advantageous charter than this. Of its validity I have no doubt, and cannot think of a ground upon which one might be based. It was competent for the Legislature of Kentucky to create such a corporation. It was then competent for it to grant to it the exemptions and the powers and privileges conferred upon it. There has never been the slightest disposition, so far as I can learn, on the part of the State of Kentucky, to question the fullest exercise and enjoyment by the Board of the powers and exemptions conferred upon it by this legislation.

"You will observe that not only does the act which constitutes the charter of the Board name it as an agency of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, but insures its loyalty by making the Bishops of the Church *ex-officio* members of the Board, and by making all of the officers and managers of the Board subject to election quadrennially, by the General Conferences."

PICTURE OF EMINENT METHODISTS

During the administration of Dr. Ellis (1923) Daniel Morton, M.D., of St. Joseph, Missouri, son of Dr. David

Morton, sent a picture entitled "Eminent Methodists" to the office of the Board in the name of his mother, Mrs. H. W. Morton. The picture was made about 1876 by cutting out of religious periodicals of the day the steel engravings of noted Methodist men and ministers. The process of collecting the necessary likenesses required several years.

This picture was the first one to adorn the first office of the Board of Church Extension. It contains some faces that cannot be found now and for that reason alone is very valuable. Nearly all of the faces can be identified, as the picture is accompanied by an index.

THE ASBURY-McKENDREE TABLE

On May 20, 1923, Bishop McMurry went to Russellville, Kentucky, to preach the baccalaureate sermon for Logan College. In the afternoon the President of the College, Rev. A. P. Lyon, D.D., drove with his guest to Lewisburg, where Rev. Virgil Elgin was in charge of the Methodist church. The Bishop preached to the congregation there and had the privilege of seeing a table of very great interest to Methodism.

Rev. Phillip Kennerly, a local preacher, gave the land on which Kennerly's Chapel was built at Lewisburg, Kentucky. The church was named for the donor of the land. This local preacher made a table to be used at the Annual Conference held September 29-October 6, 1814, at Kennerly's Chapel, which was located on or near an old camp ground.

Upon his return to Louisville Bishop McMurry reported to the Secretary, Dr. Ellis, that the congregation at Lewisburg would like to place this historic table with the

Board of Church Extension. Then Dr. Ellis secured action from the Executive Committee and the table was accepted. It bears a plate with the following inscription :

“This table was used by Bishop Francis Asbury and Bishop William McKendree in presiding over the Tennessee Annual Conference held at Kennerly’s Chapel, Logan County, Kentucky, September 29-October 6, 1814, and is placed in the office of the Board of Church Extension by the courtesy of the Lewisburg congregation, which is the successor of the old Kennerly’s Chapel.”

THE TITLE “SECRETARY”

The General Conference, meeting in May, 1918, changed the constitution of the Board by striking out the word “Corresponding” from the title “Corresponding Secretary” so the name of the executive officer became “Secretary.”

DR. McMURRY ELECTED TO EPISCOPACY

The pre-eminence of the service which Dr. W. F. McMurry has rendered the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is unquestioned. That he wrought well as Secretary of the Board of Church Extension is proved by the record of his achievements during his extended term in that office. The value of his work as the administrator of Church Extension affairs is evidenced by his election at three consecutive sessions of the General Conference to serve as Secretary. The Church recognized his labors after he had spent twelve years with the Board by electing him to the Episcopacy at the General Conference in Atlanta, 1918.

Bishop McMurry bears the distinction of being the only Church Extension Secretary to be elevated directly from

that office to the Episcopacy. His familiarity with Church Extension affairs and the good judgment he exhibited caused men to seek his counsel when problems of particular importance confronted the Board.

The high esteem in which he has always been held as a counselor in Church Extension affairs is revealed by his election to the presidency of the Board in 1920, despite his other manifold duties, and by the insistent requests of the Board for his change of residence from St. Louis to Louisville in 1920, so his advice might be readily sought at all times.

Much credit is due those who are responsible for the establishment of the Board during its formative years, but now that we are sufficiently removed from its middle life to afford us a clear perspective, we find its growth and expansion so phenomenal as to make it fitting to pay tribute to Bishop McMurry in these words: "What Church Extension is among us he made it." The momentum he developed continues to be felt with the passing of time.

Reference to Chapter IV, page 63 will show that the increase in the Loan Fund Capital which was made during his administration amounted to \$876,323.85, the increase being from \$230,002.59 to \$1,106,326.44. Many other noteworthy facts about his work are recorded in this book.

DR. BOAZ RESIGNS

Dr. H. A. Boaz of Texas was elected Secretary in 1918 to succeed Bishop McMurry.

Dr. Boaz served the Board as its Executive Secretary only a short time. At the end of his second year he appeared before the Annual Meeting with this statement:

"I regret beyond measure that it now appears necessary

for me to sever my connection with this Board in order to assume new duties elsewhere. My work here has been most congenial and very delightful. Should I consult my own personal pleasure I would gladly continue indefinitely my present relations with this Board.

“However, on account of distressing financial conditions the trustees of Southern Methodist University at Dallas, Texas, elected me on February 20 to the presidency of that Institution, and asked me to take immediate charge of the University with all of its interests. After advising with members of the Executive Committee and other members of this Board, and after mature deliberation and prayer for Divine guidance, I reached the conclusion that it was my duty to relinquish my very pleasant situation here to assume the heavy responsibilities of the presidency of Southern Methodist University.

“I hereby offer my resignation as Secretary of the Board of Church Extension to take effect May 1, or when my successor has been duly elected and installed.”

It should be stated that Dr. Boaz is another Church Extension Secretary who became a Bishop. He was elevated to this office two years after he had resigned his position with the Board of Church Extension. Dr. S. H. C. Burgin was elected by the Board as Secretary to complete the unexpired term of Dr. Boaz. At the General Conference at Hot Springs (1922) he declined re-election.

XI

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

THE later years of the Board may be taken to encompass the present administration. Necessarily a great deal of the work that falls within this period has been treated in preceding chapters. There are miscellaneous items of recent date that add considerably to the advancement of Church Extension work in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which can be grouped best under the caption, "miscellaneous matters." Included in the subject matter that belongs here is the following: The suggested union of two boards; a change in policy affecting the interest rate in certain cases; a change in rules that requires the placing of grants within eleven months after they are made, thus effecting a more constant use of funds and a quicker turn-over of certain capital; the examination annually of the minutes of the Executive Committee, and the Committee on Appropriations; the receipt of gifts for the office building; the cost of operating the Board; the office building of the Board; and, the present Secretary.

UNION OF MISSION AND CHURCH EXTENSION BOARDS

At one time some effort was made to unite the Board of Church Extension and one department of the Board of Missions. In 1922 the Board of Missions in annual session at Nashville memorialized the General Conference to create, first, a Board of Foreign Missions; second, a Board of Home Missions, with the suggestion that the Board of Church Extension and Home Missions be united;

and third, the continuation of the woman's work in its existing general form, related to the two Boards as it was then related to the two departments in the Board of Missions. It further provided for a Committee to prepare a more satisfactory arrangement of the work of the women, if such could be devised.

This matter was brought to the attention of our Board for some action because it involved the work of Church Extension as it was then organized and conducted.

The effort to unite the two Boards was discussed and finally referred to a special committee, but nothing came of it.

RATE OF INTEREST FOR SPECIAL FUNDS

At the Annual Meeting, 1923, Dr. Ellis made the following report:

"The rate of interest charged by the Board of Church Extension is six per cent, but in order to secure prompt payment it is understood that if the several installments of principal and interest are promptly met at or before maturity the payee will accept interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, payable semiannually, otherwise the rate is to remain as fixed. I am sure this is a very benevolent arrangement and should be continued in reference to the placing of the larger part of our loan fund.

"However, I am convinced that we should charge six per cent with no decrease for prompt payment for certain funds which we hold and for loans made to churches which are amply able to pay six per cent. We administer a large sum upon which we pay annuities. The average amount paid on these Annuity Bonds is between six and seven per cent. We have many churches which are able to pay a larger rate of interest than we are charging, and,

we feel that the privilege of getting the smaller rate should be left to weaker churches that borrow from banks, paying seven, eight, and sometimes ten per cent. We can care for the needs of these churches and at the same time reduce the annual loss caused by the difference between the amount of interest we pay on annuities and the amount we receive on loans by making loans to these churches at a higher rate of interest.

“I recommend that you authorize that loans be made at six per cent, without rebate for prompt payment, to such churches and from such funds as the Board in its Annual Meeting or the Executive Committee may deem wise.” The Board adopted this suggestion of the Secretary which is still in effect.

The same year Dr. Ellis showed in his report that unpaid grants remained on our books which had been made one, two, and even three years before. This condition prevailed because applications had been made in advance of the time when churches were able to qualify for them to be paid or because buildings remained incomplete, possibly on account of poor financing or unnecessary delays on the part of the local committees. The committee appointed to consider this part of the Secretary's report recommended that all grants and loans expire at the end of eleven months from the date when they were made and that they be continued or renewed only upon the application by the pastor and the official board, or the building committee having charge of the houses for which the grants were made, provided sixty days' notice had been given by the Secretary. This report was adopted as amended and has proved to be of great benefit to the Board.

BUST OF J. S. LITHGOW

In 1924 Dr. Ellis gave a brief account of the receipt of a bust that was presented to the Board during the preceding year. This bust of James S. Lithgow, the first President of the Board of Church Extension, was presented by Mr. Harry Lee Smyser, a grandson of Mr. Lithgow. It was carved in Carrara, Italy, and was shipped on a sailing vessel to the United States, but unfortunately the ship was wrecked and its cargo lay on the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea for about six months. Finally, the bust was salvaged and forwarded to America. The top of the head was somewhat marred, but the piece chipped out was readily replaced and will not be noticed, except on close examination. Mr. Smyser states that he is sure Mr. James S. Lithgow, our first President, would be highly pleased to know that his replica would always rest in the care of a cause he loved so well and for which he worked so hard.

This bust stands in the front hall of the Board of Church Extension Building.

COMMITTEE ON MINUTES

To provide for the regular examination of the Minutes of the Board at least once a year the Secretary, Dr. Ellis, advised a change in the By-Laws (1925) calling for a Committee on Minutes. Since that time the Board has appointed annually a Committee of three members, none of whom could be members of the Executive Committee nor of the Committee on Appropriation of Funds, whose duty it should be to review the work of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Appropriation of Funds, and make report to the Board in Annual Session.

It is apparent that such a By-Law not only invited the

attention of the Board to these minutes but actually required some of its members to scrutinize them annually and report their findings to the entire body. It has served to keep the Board informed about the record of proceedings of the Executive Committee and the Committee on Appropriations and to establish throughout the Church greater confidence in the action of the Board during the interim between Annual Meetings.

HOMES OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION

At the outset the Board of Church Extension established its headquarters at 520 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, Kentucky. The office was restricted to the front, downstairs room in the home of the Corresponding Secretary. It appears that those quarters must have been very much restricted, but a need for more spacious accommodations did not exist for a considerable time after the new organization was formed. The sitting room of the family became the reception room of the Board and was used for this extra purpose for years.

It was at a meeting held in this rented building that the Board of Church Extension was officially organized on June 24, 1882.

The first home was a very modest two-story house. A tin sign indicated the location of this new department of church work. A flat-top desk in the middle of the room was the only furniture belonging to the office; the rest belonged to the house. Nothing was bought except as necessities arising from the growth of the work compelled it. Discarded envelopes were slit open as a measure of economy and used as memorandum paper in office work. Larger quarters were secured only when the necessities

of the business required. The Corresponding Secretary would never consent to an office separate from his home.

On July 1, 1897, Mrs. Catharine H. Wilson, of Louisville, Mrs. Mary A. Morton, of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Presley Meguiar and Dr. Morton, two of the officers, united in presenting to the Board the premises at 707 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, Kentucky, so long occupied by this corporation as an office and by the Corresponding Secretary as a residence. The persons making the gift reserved to themselves annuities for life, amounting to \$480 per annum, divided among them in proportion to their several contributions. By the terms of the deed the annuity to Dr. Morton survived to his widow, and the deed to Mr. Meguiar was prepared on a similar condition. To meet these charges, that portion of the building not occupied by the Board was rented during the first year for \$360 so that the net rental paid by the Board was only \$120 as against about \$360 previously. This net rental sum became less as annuities expired and entirely ceased with the death of the last annuitant. It not only answered all needs of the Board for office purposes, but in time became a source of income.

Following the instruction of the Board at its Annual Meeting in April, 1910, the Executive and Finance Committee negotiated a sale of the old property. On the first day of December following, the Executive and Finance Committee signed a contract to sell the property at 707 West Chestnut Street and two lots in Beechmont for \$4,750 and \$750 respectively, making a total of \$5,500, which was considered by those who knew the value of real estate in Louisville to be a good price. At the same

time a contract was signed to purchase property at 1025 Brook Street with permission to build an office on the new site at the convenience of the Board. The Board released the property on Chestnut Street and took possession of that on Brook Street February 15, 1911.

Mr. T. L. Jefferson and Dr. W. F. McMurry were appointed a committee to secure plans and a proposition to build a suitable office back of the residence that was standing already. Preferably the new building was to be of hard brick and tin covered.

The property on Brook Street was purchased for \$7,500. The new office unit that was erected as a temporary abode cost only \$2,500 though it was modern, convenient, and complete. It was occupied on March 10, 1911. The purpose of selling the property on Chestnut Street and reinvesting elsewhere was to secure a location that would be more congenial as a place of residence for the Secretary and more desirable as a place of business for the Board. In order to make this transfer and provide for administrative conveniences it became necessary to carry a loan of \$4,500 on the new property at five per cent interest.

On May 1, 1914, the Annual Meeting of the Board convened in a small banquet room in the Lee-Huckins Hotel, Oklahoma City, only five days prior to the opening of the General Conference in that city. At the Board meeting Dr. McMurry called the attention of the members to the need for new office headquarters. In his review of facts he stated that at the General Conference in Asheville (1910), the question of relocating the headquarters of the Corporation had been raised and no definite proposition about the matter had reached the office of the Board

during the quadrennium that followed, though there was considerable discussion in some quarters.

Previously, while the question remained unsettled, the Executive and Finance Committee had provided temporary headquarters in connection with the new property on Brook Street, and at an expenditure of less money than it would have cost to rent suitable quarters in an office building. Full value was soon realized from the money invested in the temporary structure, so the Board sustained no loss when it was vacated. Already Church Extension business had outgrown this office, so Dr. McMurry announced that the time had come, in his judgment, and that of the other members of the Executive and Finance Committee, when a suitable building, designed as a permanent home for the corporation, should be provided.

During the first thirty-two years of the Board's existence, it had been housed in headquarters not in keeping with its dignity, but as a matter of economy it had been content to do its work in buildings not specifically designed and prepared for it, and therefore not adapted to its needs.

At that time the Loan Fund Capital approximated six hundred thousand dollars, and it was believed that the next quadrennium should bring this capital to one million dollars. Previously there had been invested, during the quadrennium, almost a million and a quarter dollars in church and parsonage enterprises. The annual income of the Board in all departments of its work was constantly increasing. These items, together with the rapidly growing business of the office in connection with almost every phase of the building enterprises of the Church, suggested that steps should be taken looking to more appropriate office headquarters—a building so designed, located, and

constructed as to provide the office with necessary room and equipment for the highest efficiency of its work, and of such character as to safeguard and protect its valuable records, mortgages, notes, deeds, insurance policies, and other documents, and properly to represent our great Church.

The Board had an ideal charter. With all probability that charter could not be duplicated in the State of Kentucky today, and it is a question whether such an instrument could be secured in any other State in the Union. The charter was secured by the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. David Morton, who had associated with him good and wise men, all of whom had the interest of the Church at heart. Under this charter, no property that the Board held in the State of Kentucky, real estate or other, in the city or in the country, was subject to taxation.

And now that Louisville seemed finally to be settled upon as the location of the headquarters of the corporation, Dr. McMurry believed that the time had come to secure a permanent office building. He added, "I do not think it necessary to invest a large sum of money in such a building, nor do I think it essential that it be located on the busiest street of the city; but you do need to get in a reasonably conspicuous place, and have equipment of such character as comports with the magnitude and dignity of the work which this Board represents. It would be well, in my judgment, for you to have this in mind, and to instruct your Secretary and your Executive and Finance Committee to study locations and plans of buildings, and to see if the money can be secured from some source, and in some way to enable you to own a respectable head-

quarters for your work, and in the home city of your corporation."

The Executive and Finance Committee was authorized to take steps that were necessary to select a new location and erect a new building, provided they could secure the money outside the donation fund.

During the interim between annual meetings (1914-15) the Corresponding Secretary contracted for the purchase of the lot and house at 1115 South Fourth Avenue, which lot has a frontage of 63 feet on the east side of Fourth Avenue, by 180 feet deep, at a cost of \$9,750.

On April 23, 1915, the Executive and Finance Committee awarded the contract for the erection of the new building to the Frey Planing Mill Company of Louisville. The contract price was \$46,701.

The building was erected before the Department of Architecture was established; so Brinton B. Davis, of Louisville, was the architect employed to prepare plans and specifications and supervise construction.

The building is 44 feet by 103 feet, with portico on front 10 feet deep and 32 feet wide. The Ionic columns at the front are monolithic and the proportions true in every respect to their Classic prototypes. There is a porch across the rear 12 feet deep and 44 feet wide that is approached from the second story. The portico and the front and sides of the building are built of the best quality of Bedford stone. The rear wall is hard-pressed clay brick. The roof is covered with flat English tile, dark red in color. The building is of fire-proof construction throughout.

The basement, which is 7 feet below grade level, contains a vestibule and a chapel with a committee room and

a coat room adjoining. The chapel itself is 28 feet by 40 feet with a 12-foot ceiling height and the entrance to it is at grade level on the south side of the building near the front corner. The room is especially designed for the Annual Meetings of the Board, and other Church gatherings that may have need of it. The ground story contains a room for old records, a fuel room, boiler room, storage rooms, room for janitor, and corridor, with entrance at the rear.

The main office floor is entered from the portico. It contains a vestibule, corridor, Executive and Finance Committee room, four offices, library, mailing room, book-keeper's room, vault, three alcoves for stenographers, and coat rooms. The second floor is not needed at this time for the work of the Board and has, therefore, been arranged as a commodious and convenient living apartment. The proper architectural proportions of the structure demanded this additional height. It was also the judgment of the Committee that it would be unwise to make provision at the time of construction only for space that was needed then. Placing the apartment on this floor was, therefore, an after-thought and grew out of the above suggestion. It was a sign of forethought that provision was made for the partitions to be removed or adjusted with little expense and no structural damage to the building, whenever the space is required for office purposes.

The third or attic floor is divided into two rooms. The smaller room is 30 feet by 40 feet, and is well lighted. It may be used as a drafting room or for other purposes as our work develops, in fact it is being used as a drafting room at the present time. The larger room is designed for

storage purposes and is as nearly dust-proof as it can be made.

An automatic elevator runs from the basement to the top floor. It is especially useful in carrying supplies to and from the storage rooms in the attic.

The building is heated by a low pressure steam system that is designed for economy in the consumption of fuel.

The interior of the building is comparatively plain and simple as befits its function. The woodwork in the principal offices throughout is white oak finished in brown tones; in other rooms birch and pine. Some tile and marble are used in the corridors of the first and second stories, the front vestibule and stair halls. No attempt has been made to over-elaborate either the interior or exterior.

It was stipulated in the contract that the building should be finished and committed to the care of the Board December 1, 1915, but delays of one sort and another made it impossible to occupy it until April 10, 1916.

The general contractor's bid did not include the heating plant, decorations, elevator, outside walks, walls about the yard, etc. The several items of expense are as follows:

Cost of lot, less sale of old building	\$ 9,311 90
Contract price	46,701 00
Extras on foundation caused by finding bad soil, and on light standards, vault doors, etc.	1,918 86
Heating plant	2,437 00
Elevator	1,639 00
Light fixtures	1,235 38
Concrete walks	451 28

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

Walls for yard, stationery room, cases for printed matter, etc.	2,183 00
Decorations	1,290 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$67,167 42

At the close of the fiscal year there had been paid on these items \$59,280.45, leaving a balance to be paid of \$7,886.97, but unusual as it may seem the funds were in hand at the time of the Annual Meeting to cover this balance.

Through the two years required to gather money and erect the building the idea prevailed in the minds of the Executive and Finance Committee that there must be no decrease in the usual annual additions to the Loan Fund Capital, after the price of the construction of the building had been deducted.

The cost of the building and lot, as given above, was \$67,167.42. This amount subtracted from the total of \$244,046.45 which was added to the Loan Fund Capital during the two years, left \$176,879.03, or an average increase above the cost of the new property for each of the two years amounting to \$88,439.51—a sum considerably in advance of any other single year's increase in the Loan Fund Capital. It was manifested, therefore, to the minds of the Committee that the campaign for the building did not subtract but rather added to what might reasonably have been expected as an increase in the Loan Fund Capital without the additional argument for the need of a new building.

The Committee, under instruction given at the regular meeting in 1915, invited Rev. Samuel A. Steel, D.D., of

Columbia, South Carolina, to deliver the dedicatory address. Because Bishop Atkins was President of the Louisville Conference and had given assistance, counsel, sympathy, and suggestions of one sort or another, he was chosen to preside at the dedicatory services.

These services were opened at three o'clock Sunday afternoon, May 7, 1916, in the sanctuary of the Fourth Avenue Methodist Church. The program attracted such attention that the room was filled. Those participating were such men as Bishops Morrison, Denny, Hoss, McCoy, Murrah, Lambuth, Mouzon, Candler, Kilgo, and Atkins, and Drs. Stonewall Anderson, James Cannon, Jr., Samuel A. Steel, who delivered the principal address on "The Challenge of the Church," and Mr. T. L. Jefferson.

After the services in the church, the assembly adjourned to the steps and portico of the new building two doors east where Dr. McMurry, who was instrumental in raising the funds, presented it free from debt to the Bishops, and Bishop Candler graciously accepted it. Then the Corresponding Secretary invited the audience into the building and around it, stating that even in the back yard there was nothing to be ashamed of.

THE PRESENT SECRETARY

Dr. T. D. Ellis was elected General Secretary of the Board of Church Extension at the General Conference meeting at Hot Springs, Arkansas, 1922; he was re-elected at the General Conference in Memphis, Tennessee, 1926, and at Dallas, Texas, 1930.

From the time of his election in 1922 to the close of the fiscal year on March 31, 1932, the Loan Fund Capital has been increased from \$1,950,943.74 to \$3,118,370.34, an

increase of \$1,167,426.60. These figures show an increase in Loan Fund Capital of nearly sixty per cent within ten years.

REPORT OF PROGRESS

Total receipts from beginning to March
31, 1932\$24,319,487 33

These receipts were from the following
sources (from beginning to March 31,
1932) :

I. Annual Collec-	
tions	\$6,883,024 79
II. Special Donations	2,910,310 48
III. Contributions to	
Loan Funds .	2,689,213 32
IV. Interest on Loan	
Funds	1,506,328 73
(Charges against	
interest, an-	
nuities, etc.,	
\$1,063,900.35)	
V. Principal Repaid	
on Loans	9,434,821 02
VI. Donations Re-	
funded	167,899 82
VII. From Miscella-	
neous Sources	446,655 77
VIII. Parsonage Aid	
(W. H. M. S.)	281,233 40
<hr/>	
Grand Total	\$24,319,487 33

N.B. From 1882 to 1932 churches and parsonages have been aided as follows:

	Churches	Parsonages
By the General Board to the amount of	\$11,593,178 47	\$ 745,363 50
By the Conference Board to the amount of*	3,499,740 71	825,455 45
By the Woman's Home Mission Society, Gen- eral Board, to the amount of		186,126 36
By the Woman's Confer- ence Societies to the amount of		206,260 76
A NET TOTAL of 12,253 Churches and 3,824 Parsonages to the amount of	\$15,092,919 18	\$ 1,963,206 07
GRAND TOTAL		\$17,056,125 25

*There have been received and expended in church building by the Conference Boards of Church Extension \$81,248.10, which the records of this office do not account for in name and location.

XII

BOARD MEMBERS, TABLES, CHARTER, AND CONSTITUTION

BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENTS	DATES
Hon. J. S. Lithgow	1882-89
Mr. Presley Meguiar	1890-03
(Member of Board, 1882-03).	
(Vice-President—See below)	
Mr. R. B. Gilbert, M.D.	1904-06
(Member of Board, 1890-21)	
(Vice-President—See below)	
Mr. T. L. Jefferson	1907-19
(Member of Board, 1894-25)	
(Vice-President—See below)	
Bishop W. F. McMurry	1920-25
(Member of Board, 1902-present)	
(Corresponding Secretary—See below)	
(Elected to Episcopacy, 1918)	
Rev. J. W. Johnson, D.D.*	1926-32
(Member of Board, 1926-present)	

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Mr. Presley Meguiar	1882-89
Mr. Charles R. Long	1890-94
Mr. R. B. Gilbert, M.D.	1895-03
Mr. John L. Wheat	1904-09
(Member of Board, 1882-10)	
Rev. E. B. G. Mann	1910-13
Mr. W. W. Ball	1914-17
Rev. A. P. Lyon, D.D.	1918-19
(Member of Board, 1918-21 and 1926-30)	
Mr. T. L. Jefferson	1920-25
Mr. W. F. Boggess, M.D.	1926-present
(Member of Board, 1917-present)	

*Upon the resignation of Dr. Johnson, at the Fiftieth Annual Meeting, Rev. Eugene B. Hawk, D.D., was elected President of the Board.

THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION—A HISTORY

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES

Rev. David Morton, D.D.	1882-97
Rev. P. H. Whisner, D.D.	1898-05
Rev. W. F. McMurry, D.D.	1906-17
Rev. H. A. Boaz, D.D.	1918-19
(Elected to Episcopacy, 1922)	
Rev. S. H. C. Burgin, D.D.	1920-21
(Member of Board, 1914-17)	
Rev. T. D. Ellis, D.D.	1922-present

TREASURERS

Mr. John W. Proctor	1882-94
Mr. John Ouerbacker	1895-06
(Member of Board, 1886-07)	
Mr. Thomas B. Morton	1906-09
(Member of Board, 1904-09)	
Mr. J. Adger Stewart	1910-present

ASSISTANT SECRETARIES

Rev. James C. Morris, D.D.	1890-92
Mr. Wilbur F. Barclay	1894-06
Rev. George S. Sexton	1909-13
Rev. D. B. Price	1915-16
(Member of Board, 1914-19)	
Mr. James B. Preston	1917-25
(Member of Board, 1921-25)	
Rev. R. N. Allen, D.D.	1925-present
(Member of Board, 1926-present)	

ARCHITECT-SECRETARIES

Rev. J. A. Baylor	1917-24
(Member of Board, 1914-present)	
Mr. H. M. King	1924-present

BISHOPS

	DATE OF SERVICE	DEATH
George Foster Pierce	1882-84	9-3-84
Hubbard Hinde Kavanaugh	1882-84	3-19-84
Holland Nimmons McTyeire	1882-89	2-15-89
John Christian Keener	1882-06	1-19-06
Alpheus Waters Wilson	1882-16	11-21-16
Linus Parker	1882-85	3-6-85
John Cowper Granbery	1882-07	4-1-07
Robert Kennon Hargrove	1882-05	8-3-05
William Wallace Duncan	1886-08	3-2-08

BOARD MEMBERS, TABLES, CHARTER, AND CONSTITUTION

Charles Betts Galloway	1886-09	5-12-09
Eugene Russell Hendrix	1886-27	11-11-27
Joseph Staunton Key	1886-20	4-6-20
Atticus Greene Haygood	1890-96	1-19-96
Oscar Penn Fitzgerald	1890-11	8-5-11
Henry Clay Morrison	1898-21	12-21-21
(Secretary Board of Missions. Ex-Officio Member Board of Church Extension, 1894-97.)		
Warren Akin Candler	1898-present	
Elijah Embree Hoss	1902-19	4-23-19
Alexander Coke Smith	1902-06	12-27-06
John James Tigert	1906-06	11-21-06
Seth Ward,	1906-09	9-20-09
James Atkins	1906-23	12-5-23
Collins Denny	1910-present	
John Carlisle Kilgo	1910-22	8-11-22
William Belton Murrah	1910-25	3-5-25
Walter Russell Lambuth	1910-21	9-26-21
(Secretary Board of Missions. Ex-Officio Member Board of Church Extension, 1898-09.)		
Edwin DuBose Mouzon	1910-present	
Richard Green Waterhouse	1910-22	12-9-22
James Henry McCoy	1910-19	
John Monroe Moore	1918-present	
William Fletcher McMurry	1918-present	
(See above)		
Urban Valentine Williams Darlington....	1918-present	
William Newman Ainsworth	1918-present	
Horace Mellard Du Bose	1918-present	
James Cannon, Jr.	1918-present	
William Benjamin Beauchamp	1922-31	6-28-31
James Edward Dickey	1922-28	4-17-28
Samuel Ross Hay	1922-present	
(Member of Board, 1910-17)		
Hoyt McWhorter Dobbs,	1922-present	
Hiram Abiff Boaz	1922-present	
(See above)		
Arthur James Moore	1930-present	
Paul Bentley Kern	1930-present	
Angie Frank Smith	1930-present	

EX-OFFICIO

REVERENDS

W. W. Pinson, D.D., Secretary, Board of Missions ..	1910-21
E. H. Rawlings, D.D., Secretary, Board of Missions ..	1922-25
R. L. Russell, D.D., Secretary, Board of Missions ..	1922-25
W. G. Cram, D.D., Secretary, Board of Missions	1926-present

CLERICAL

REVERENDS

W. T. Harris, D.D.	1882-01
F. B. Carroll, D.D.	1882-98
C. I. Vandeventer	1882-02
H. C. Settle	1882-94
J. C. Morris	1882-89
Joseph Emery	1882-85
W. F. Compton	1882-85
C. E. Brown	1882-85
S. K. Cox	1886-89
O. P. Fitzgerald	1886-89
M. H. Neely, D.D.	1886-06
Beverly W. Bond, D.D.	1890-98
S. M. Hosmer, D.D.	1890-06
R. H. Parker	1890-94
John W. Lewis,	1894-02
W. F. Cook	1894-02
J. D. Harper	1898-06
T. W. Lewis	1898-13
P. B. Hicks	1902-06
M. J. Cofer, D.D.	1902-12
J. M. Henry	1906-09
Nelson B. Henry, D.D.	1906-13
J. E. Godbey, D.D.	1906-09
N. L. Linebaugh, D.D.	1906-17
Henry Trawick	1906-13
W. J. Johnson	1906-09
W. J. Young, D.D.	1906-17
E. H. Mowre	1910-13
J. B. Cochran	1910-25
F. N. Parker	1910-13
James Thomas	1910-present
R. E. Stackhouse	1910-21
W. L. Sherrill	1910-13
Paul H. Linn	1910-13
L. W. Moore,	1910-13
H. B. Johnson, D.D.	1910-17
L. T. Mann	1914-17
B. P. Jaco	1914-21
J. H. Eakes, D.D.	1914-25
R. H. Cooper	1914-21
W. J. Carpenter, D.D.	1914-17
G. W. Davis	1918-25
W. W. Armstrong	1918-21
I. C. Jenkins	1918-21
O. F. Williams	1918-present

BOARD MEMBERS, TABLES, CHARTER, AND CONSTITUTION

J. H. Wells	1918-present
S. C. Hatcher	1918-21
J. R. T. Major	1922-present
J. H. Felts	1922-25
W. L. Scarborough, D.D.	1922-30
M. H. Norton	1922-30
J. W. Hunt	1922-30
S. E. Allison,	1926-30
E. B. Hawk	1926-32

(See footnote, page 185.)

T. C. Ragsdale	1926-30
W. J. Sims	1926-present
Smith Hardin, D.D.	1930-present
W. M. Curtis	1930 present
E. Nash Broyles	1930-present
C. W. Webdell	1930-present
L. S. Barton	1930-present
J. W. Blackard	1930 present

LAYMEN

Honorable G. D. Shands	1882-85
Mr. C. B. Seymour	1882-82
Mr. J. C. Woodward	1882-82
Honorable Charles S. Grubbs	1882-90
Mr. J. H. Carlisle	1882-89
Mr. James G. Carter	1882-89
Mr. John W. Paulett	1890-98
Honorable J. H. Bowden	1892-92
Mr. George M. Rogers	1892-00
Mr. Presley H. Tapp	1895-16
Mr. T. S. Garrison	1898-13
Mr. Walter S. Mitchell	1902-06
Mr. J. C. Strother	1906-09
Mr. D. L. Coon	1910-13
Mr. R. O. Randle	1914-25
Mr. C. W. Ray	1914-17
Mr. J. H. Wilson	1914-25
Mr. T. S. DeArman	1918-21
Mr. Dorman Thompson	1918-23
Mr. J. I. Murray	1922-25
Mr. E. Frank Story	1922-26, 1927-30
Mr. W. E. Brock	1922-25
Honorable Josephus Daniels	1924-25
Mr. M. A. Beeson	1926-30
Mr. E. E. McMillon	1926-27
Mr. S. H. Meyer	1926-28
Mr. Keith P. Snyder	1926-present
Mr. C. S. Wallace	1926-30

Mr. C. M. Dannelly	1928 present
Mr. William B. Reily	1929-30
Mr. J. A. Jones	1930-present
Mr. T. W. Harbin	1930-present
Mr. T. H. Flannery	1930-present
Mr. Zach Toms	1931-present

CONFERENCE LOAN FUNDS

The following resolution was adopted by the Board in Annual Session, Memphis, Tenn., April 30, 1909:

"We have also considered the proposition of enlisting the Conference Boards in this work, and we recommend to them the desirability of setting apart some per cent of these funds to create a Conference Loan Fund to be administered through the general office for the benefit of the Conference raising such funds."

The Conference Boards acting under this resolution and on authority of Paragraph 496, Discipline 1926, have established Loan Funds, which on March 31, 1932, were as follows:

Alabama Conference (H. M. Eustis Loan Fund)	\$13,554 09
Baltimore Conference	3,532 21
Central Texas Conference	26,512 99
Florida Conference (John C. Ley Loan Fund)	19,614 92
Holston Conference (Sullins-Price-Richardson Loan Fund)	12,887 40
Illinois Conference (Tigert Memorial Loan Fund)	2,257 19
Kentucky Conference	3,707 80
Little Rock Conference (Horace Jewell Loan Fund) ...	1,638 08
Little Rock Conference (Dr. R. N. Ross Loan Fund) ..	889 18
Louisiana Conference	1,752 10
Louisville Conference	1,879 96
Memphis Conference	12,460 96
Mississippi Conference	11,372 76
Mississippi Conference (Martha Lovett Shufflebotham) .	1,114 13
Missouri Conference (C. I. Vandeventer Loan Fund) ..	6,363 65
New Mexico Conference	1,891 56
North Alabama Conference	25,295 57
North Arkansas Conference	10,621 00
North Carolina Conference	21,015 08
North Carolina Conference (J. F. Jones Memorial Loan Fund)	300 00
North Georgia Conference	24,422 61
North Mississippi Conference (Galloway Memorial Loan Fund)	6,243 07
North Texas Conference	56,965 82
Northwest Conference	700 00
Northwest Texas Conference	30,186 29

BOARD MEMBERS, TABLES, CHARTER, AND CONSTITUTION

Oklahoma Conference	9,147 82
The Los Angeles and Pacific Conference Memorial	1,156 91
St. Louis Conference	5,266 94
South Carolina Conference	4,172 33
South Georgia Conference (John W. Simmons Loan Fund)	\$11,116 54
Tennessee Conference	8,703 76
Texas Conference (Smith Garrison Loan Fund)	24,498 21
Upper South Carolina Conference	4,630 36
Virginia Conference (Granbery Memorial Loan Fund) .	44,473 98
Virginia Conference (James H. Gray Memorial)	4,800 00
Western North Carolina Conference	7,343 04
Western Virginia Conference	3,479 16
West Texas Conference (H. G. Horton Loan Fund) ...	2,550 70

Under authority of the same chapter in the Discipline, viz: Paragraph 498, Discipline 1926, the following District Loan Funds have been established:

Dyersburg District, Memphis Conference	\$ 116 00
Abilene District, Northwest Texas Conference	278 29
Vernon District, Northwest Texas Conference	375 73
Joplin District, Southwest Missouri Conference	2,850 19
Joplin District, Southwest Conference (J. C. Lamson Loan Fund)	2,300 27
Joplin District, Southwest Missouri Conference (James C. Alexander Loan Fund)	1,014 39
Chickasha District, Oklahoma Conference	165 49

Summary of Contributions to Annual Collections, Specials and Loan Funds, from the Several Conferences 1882-1932

CONFERENCE	Annual Collections	Specials	Loan Funds	Totals
Alabama.....	\$ 245,220 89	\$ 12,626 71	\$ 19,934 46	\$ 277,782 06
Arizona.....	10,208 90	927 76	5,101 96	16,238 62
Baltimore.....	273,307 32	123,322 57	110,435 60	512,065 49
Belgium.....	33 60			33 60
Brazil.....	9,770 21		703 38	10,473 59
Central Brazil.....	1,917 01			1,917 01
Central Texas.....	264,463 46	39,606 67	129,357 75	433,427 88
China Mission.....	15,043 88			15,043 88
Cuba.....	7,767 77		10 00	7,777 77
Florida.....	143,501 52	28,383 52	154,279 51	326,164 55
Holston.....	264,744 66	26,442 81	12,214 49	303,401 96
Illinois.....	13,954 82	378 00	6,754 50	21,087 32
Indian Mission.....	1,148 00			1,148 00
Japan Mission.....	95 45			95 45
Kentucky.....	121,090 26	15,812 05	40,492 25	177,394 56
Korea.....	5,330 19			5,330 19
Little Rock.....	157,498 76	4,595 00	2,792 49	164,886 25
Louisiana.....	113,963 46	70,843 87	111,356 01	296,163 34
Louisville.....	176,923 57	22,837 51	185,474 41	385,235 49
Memphis.....	231,003 69	9,806 09	154,933 11	395,742 89
Mexico.....	10,192 55	955 80	53 55	11,201 90
Mississippi.....	183,494 29	9,153 67	38,861 66	231,509 62
Missouri.....	190,915 06	4,844 84	55,019 38	250,779 28
New Mexico.....	46,917 09	8,488 60	80,523 53	135,929 22
North Alabama.....	247,617 17	11,496 96	28,110 06	287,224 19
North Arkansas.....	147,681 14	4,415 07	11,866 26	163,962 47
North Carolina.....	312,676 50	9,004 27	51,366 40	373,047 17
North Georgia.....	330,428 44	30,490 77	33,213 57	394,132 78
North Mississippi.....	186,853 93	6,534 53	20,573 35	213,961 81
North Texas.....	240,333 52	7,348 96	76,338 79	324,021 27
Northwest.....	22,110 38	3,551 83	59,626 68	85,288 89
Northwest Texas.....	147,729 51	1,733 02	110,399 11	259,861 64
Oklahoma.....	172,281 06	7,458 65	43,920 16	223,659 87
Pacific.....	64,100 87	27,582 95	34,951 13	126,634 95
St. Louis.....	146,809 61	9,972 69	38,516 84	195,299 14
South Brazil.....	2,534 21		532 60	3,066 81
South Carolina.....	236,774 99	4,358 41	11,681 56	252,814 96
South Georgia.....	328,650 81	8,879 38	16,339 75	353,869 94
Southwest Missouri.....	138,328 23	4,319 94	41,926 68	184,574 85
Tennessee.....	291,842 50	8,781 99	54,867 18	355,491 67
Texas.....	270,099 54	8,165 50	36,110 42	314,375 46
Texas-Mexican Mission.....	2,323 78			2,323 78
Upper South Carolina.....	112,620 94	2,298 35	81,139 27	196,058 56
Virginia.....	440,673 91	25,137 05	54,024 18	519,835 14
Western Mexican Mission.....	1,166 60			1,166 60
Western North Carolina.....	319,016 75	12,844 67	16,739 41	348,600 83
Western Virginia.....	75,192 23	8,259 35	22,845 26	106,296 84
West Texas.....	156,671 76	6,530 51	34,713 60	197,915 87
Not localized.....		2,317,120 16	731,869 37	3,048,989 53
Totals.....	\$ 6,883,024 79	\$ 2,910,310 48	\$ 2,719,974 67	\$12,513,309 94

Showing Annual Receipts on Assessments, Specials and Loan Funds and Annual Increase of Loan Fund Capital etc., from June 1, 1882, to March 31, 1932.

	Year Ending March 31	Amount Paid on Assessment Account During the Year	Amount Received on Specials During the Year	Amount Received on Loan Funds During the Year	Annual Interest Earned Less Annul-ties, etc.	Increase of Loan Fund Capital During the Year	Loan Fund Capital at the Close of the Year
1-10	1883-1892...	\$ 426,348 73	\$ 19,111 16	\$ 67,569 42	\$ 10,773 32	\$ 78,342 74	\$ 78,342 74
11	1893.....	62,637 22	2,639 72	11,054 87	3,383 20	14,438 07	92,780 81
12	1894.....	55,369 40	1,267 55	12,533 11	3,001 52	15,534 63	108,315 44
13	1895.....	53,503 32	2,795 37	5,367 59	3,164 81	8,532 40	116,847 84
14	1896.....	56,675 40	3,467 22	6,898 00	3,315 36	10,213 36	127,061 20
15	1897.....	54,557 68	1,654 00	5,505 00	2,547 44	8,052 44	135,113 64
16	1898.....	58,236 88	9,154 61	19,787 22	3,891 64	23,678 86	158,792 50
17	1899.....	55,262 40	1,888 50	11,599 71	3,529 33	15,129 04	173,921 54
18	1900.....	64,579 86	3,490 00	7,079 90	1,931 70	9,011 60	182,933 14
19	1901.....	67,797 28	7,208 36	4,539 24	3,624 10	8,163 34	191,096 48
20	1902.....	72,196 74	2,216 42	5,634 83	5,151 16	10,785 99	201,882 47
21	1903.....	77,642 28	1,591 39	1,985 00	4,749 12	6,734 12	208,616 59
22	1904.....	92,192 82	279 70	.....	6,168 88	6,168 88	214,785 47
23	1905.....	100,138 26	889 00	511 00	4,796 93	5,307 93	220,093 40
24	1906.....	103,382 22	1,328 26	4,400 50	5,508 69	9,909 19	230,002 59
25	1907.....	111,818 33	14,975 31	7,888 43	5,452 41	13,340 84	243,343 43
26	1908.....	120,408 24	10,117 44	16,607 39	9,009 19	25,616 58	268,960 01
27	1909.....	149,899 05	6,686 43	13,518 44	7,114 83	20,633 27	289,593 28
28	1910.....	155,875 12	12,235 52	40,588 33	9,433 04	50,021 37	339,614 65
29	1911.....	172,753 22	9,225 33	30,271 48	10,225 47	40,496 95	380,111 60
30	1912.....	194,475 47	12,510 24	45,568 17	9,484 73	55,052 90	435,164 50
31	1913.....	197,590 66	42,774 21	56,475 70	9,746 96	66,222 66	501,387 16
32	1914.....	201,232 71	33,822 25	47,878 78	11,316 69	59,195 47	560,582 63
33	1915.....	188,015 69	15,957 16	103,074 49	7,779 07	110,853 56	671,436 19
34	1916.....	205,112 41	56,968 78	118,286 49	14,906 40	133,192 89	804,629 08
35	1917.....	222,360 83	70,191 34	159,358 71	12,474 20	171,832 91	976,461 99
36	1918.....	239,421 42	90,457 19	126,365 15	3,499 30	129,864 45	1,106,326 44
37	1919.....	259,687 21	102,076 56	82,507 70	6,793 50	89,301 20	1,195,627 64
38	1920.....	267,315 76	331,006 67	287,966 36	10,969 84	298,936 20	1,494,563 84
39	1921.....	262,850 85	356,043 52	327,015 04	15,043 86	342,059 80	1,836,623 64
40	1922.....	224,529 88	150,842 58	103,304 95	11,015 15	114,320 10	1,950,943 74
41	1923.....	227,987 67	250,816 93	160,399 19	15,186 16	175,585 35	2,126,529 09
42	1924.....	249,723 68	355,341 69	282,597 50	32,621 50	315,219 00	2,441,748 09
43	1925.....	252,719 96	454,320 33	95,479 83	28,466 01	123,945 84	2,565,693 93
44	1926.....	254,891 05	278,660 26	29,062 49	43,358 30	72,420 79	2,638,114 72
45	1927.....	249,491 51	111,001 16	84,640 20	19,099 43	103,739 63	2,741,854 35
46	1928.....	261,470 52	33,204 24	109,645 49	16,948 29	126,593 78	2,868,448 13
47	1929.....	236,468 85	14,672 56	34,249 62	17,696 14	51,945 76	2,920,393 89
48	1930.....	234,472 12	13,297 40	*105,116 33	17,498 74	†122,615 07	3,043,008 96
49	1931.....	190,337 21	11,742 20	20,411 21	11,380 39	31,791 60	3,074,800 56
50	1932.....	151,594 88	12,381 92	36,469 56	12,065 96	†43,569 78	3,118,370 34
	Totals.....	\$6,883,024 79	\$2,910,310 48	\$2,689,213 32	\$ 434,122 76	\$3,118,370 34	\$.....

*Net receipts for years ending March 31, 1930-1932. †Net increase for years ending March 31, 1930-1932.

Showing Churches Aided and Amounts Paid by General Year Ending

	CONFERENCE	FROM BEGINNING TO MARCH 31, 1931 AMOUNTS PAID		
		Net No. Aided	Donations	Loans
1	Alabama.....	51	\$ 49,376 88	\$ 161,450 00
2	Arizona.....	30	112,550 40	34,200 00
3	Baltimore.....	73	387,077 70	171,450 00
4	Brazil.....	19	25,326 75	2,526 00
5	Central Brazil.....	10	41,328 43	1,200 00
6	Central Texas.....	79	65,314 46	261,815 00
7	China Mission.....	28	37,578 47	1,000 00
8	Congo Mission.....	2	1,143 51	.....
9	Cuba.....	17	82,342 34	18,000 00
10	Florida.....	133	209,285 86	315,730 13
11	Holston.....	71	65,730 67	219,100 00
12	Illinois.....	41	15,012 12	25,600 00
13	Belgian Mission.....	1	4,000 00	.....
14	Japan Mission.....	19	50,246 60	1,000 00
15	Kentucky.....	66	80,947 44	153,550 00
16	Korea.....	23	43,651 96	.....
17	Little Rock.....	68	53,458 68	183,900 00
18	Louisiana.....	108	219,556 78	189,900 00
19	Louisville.....	94	67,956 31	351,976 63
20	Memphis.....	71	42,666 50	94,350 00
21	Mexico.....	15	25,941 98	4,050 00
22	Mississippi.....	69	34,987 50	131,800 00
23	Missouri.....	108	201,289 97	148,958 68
24	New Mexico.....	114	236,079 96	210,635 00
25	North Alabama.....	80	94,853 16	301,800 00
26	North Arkansas.....	133	83,946 52	187,600 00
27	North Carolina.....	103	108,238 36	106,050 00
28	North Georgia.....	72	32,990 00	124,258 00
29	North Mississippi.....	66	56,757 00	174,139 00
30	North Texas.....	89	130,572 30	141,375 00
31	Northwest.....	81	162,457 79	16,519 90
32	Northwest Texas.....	72	84,692 53	193,541 70
33	Oklahoma.....	359	258,373 64	342,517 55
34	Pacific.....	85	310,284 07	144,003 63
35	St. Louis.....	77	143,007 42	136,015 50
36	South Brazil.....	8	24,566 25	7,000 00
37	South Carolina.....	36	17,875 00	144,605 00
38	South Georgia.....	52	51,580 39	274,862 00
39	Southwest Missouri.....	83	87,815 28	114,125 00
40	Tennessee.....	48	40,538 00	163,500 00
41	Texas.....	106	94,538 25	207,533 37
42	Texas-Mexican Mission.....	18	42,510 42	.....
43	Upper South Carolina.....	69	104,083 33	140,150 00
44	Virginia.....	61	158,965 00	325,650 00
45	Western Mexican Mission.....	3	17,263 89	.....
46	Western North Carolina.....	154	110,122 04	230,816 00
47	Western Virginia.....	85	108,885 82	137,400 00
48	West Texas.....	121	199,335 43	234,143 00
49	C. M. E. Special.....	31	33,490 14	39,200 00
	Totals.....	3,402	\$4,710,593 30	\$6,568,996 09

**Board from Its Organization to the Close of the Fiscal
March 31, 1932**

No. Aided	Previously Aided	Net New Churches	DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1932 AMOUNTS PAID		Total Churches Aided, Net	FROM BEGINNING TO MARCH 31, 1932, TOTAL AMOUNTS PAID	
			Donations	Loans		Donations	Loans
2	2	....	.....	\$ 15,200 00	51	\$ 49,376 88	\$ 176,650 00
3	3	....	\$ 1,400 00	8,000 00	30	113,950 40	42,200 00
3	2	1	1,000 00	20,000 00	74	388,077 70	191,450 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	19	25,326 75	2,526 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	10	41,328 43	1,200 00
2	2	....	385 00	.....	79	65,699 46	261,815 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	28	37,578 47	1,000 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	2	1,143 51	.....
....	....	....	.....	.....	17	82,342 34	18,000 00
7	6	1	6,840 27	3,006 25	134	216,126 13	318,736 38
7	5	2	2,071 00	11,000 00	73	67,801 67	230,100 00
1	1	....	250 00	700 00	41	15,262 12	26,300 00
1	....	1	500 00	.....	2	4,500 00	.....
....	....	....	.....	.....	19	50,246 60	1,000 00
3	3	....	60 00	15,500 00	66	81,007 44	169,050 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	23	43,651 96	.....
1	....	1	.....	5,000 00	69	53,458 68	188,900 00
2	2	....	800 00	2,700 00	108	220,356 78	192,600 00
5	5	....	700 00	5,955 44	94	68,656 31	357,932 07
....	....	....	.....	.....	71	42,666 50	94,350 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	15	25,941 98	4,050 00
3	2	1	1,037 50	600 00	70	36,025 00	132,400 00
1	1	....	400 00	.....	108	201,689 97	148,953 68
2	1	1	395 00	.....	115	236,474 96	210,635 00
5	4	1	509 50	65,000 00	81	95,362 66	366,800 00
6	5	1	1,530 00	19,500 00	134	85,476 52	207,100 00
2	2	....	1,033 33	.....	103	109,271 69	106,050 00
5	5	....	640 00	8,548 00	72	33,630 00	132,806 00
6	3	3	2,500 00	10,250 00	69	59,257 00	184,389 00
1	....	1	.....	12,500 00	90	130,572 30	153,875 00
....	....	....	.....	.....	81	162,457 79	16,519 90
4	3	1	1,450 00	10,000 00	73	86,142 53	203,541 70
4	3	1	1,017 50	.....	360	259,391 14	342,517 55
9	7	2	5,400 00	9,000 00	87	315,684 07	153,003 63
5	4	1	1,400 00	80 00	78	144,407 42	136,095 50
....	....	....	.....	.....	8	24,566 25	7,000 00
3	2	1	550 00	6,500 00	37	18,425 00	151,105 00
6	6	....	2,152 14	20,775 00	52	53,732 53	295,637 00
1	1	....	200 00	.....	83	88,015 28	114,125 00
1	1	....	600 00	.....	48	41,138 00	163,500 00
2	2	....	140 00	2,000 00	106	94,678 25	209,533 37
....	....	....	.....	.....	18	42,510 42	.....
6	5	1	3,435 65	.....	70	107,518 98	140,150 00
1	1	....	3,000 00	.....	61	161,965 00	325,650 00
1	....	1	200 00	.....	4	17,463 89	.....
4	4	....	900 00	7,500 00	154	111,022 04	238,316 00
3	2	1	1,135 00	2,000 00	86	110,020 82	139,400 00
8	4	4	1,876 25	6,766 25	125	201,211 68	240,909 25
....	....	....	.....	.....	31	33,490 14	39,200 00
126	99	27	\$45,508 14	\$268,080 94	3,429	\$4,756,101 44	\$6,837,077 03

Showing Number of Churches Aided by

	CONFERENCE	FROM 1882 TO MARCH 31, 1931 AMOUNTS PAID		
		Net No.	Donations	Loans
1	Alabama.....	484	\$ 98,847 43	\$ 15,511 00
2	Arizona.....	14	2,737 33	200 00
3	Baltimore.....	302	119,783 43	5,800 00
4	Brazil.....	7	5,532 98	69 65
5	Central Brazil.....	6	256 00	.....
6	Central Texas.....	306	85,471 08	73,248 00
7	China Mission.....	17	10,687 34	.....
8	Congo Mission.....	.....	.....	.....
9	Cuba.....	7	5,507 15	.....
10	Florida.....	277	55,815 88	26,726 85
11	Holston.....	391	105,698 89	32,065 00
12	Illinois.....	55	4,899 96	4,233 00
13	Indian Mission.....	.....	.....	.....
14	Japan Mission.....	5	503 00	.....
15	Kentucky.....	152	45,555 33	6,385 00
16	Korea.....	25	3,510 26	.....
17	Little Rock.....	304	63,666 70	2,332 00
18	Louisiana.....	215	43,798 58	3,525 00
19	Louisville.....	269	68,174 58	2,500 00
20	Memphis.....	369	82,812 16	16,495 00
21	Mexico.....	29	5,623 70	.....
22	Mississippi.....	357	70,691 01	25,725 00
23	Missouri.....	227	86,352 61	10,800 00
24	New Mexico.....	62	15,928 13	1,585 00
25	North Alabama.....	412	85,901 12	47,433 66
26	North Arkansas.....	369	52,760 77	20,462 11
27	North Carolina.....	384	105,771 30	35,450 00
28	North Georgia.....	487	122,467 77	36,775 00
29	North Mississippi.....	426	75,100 63	7,178 47
30	North Texas.....	318	70,276 77	80,367 30
31	Northwest.....	77	12,948 79	821 26
32	Northwest Texas.....	236	44,532 34	64,802 00
33	Oklahoma.....	345	63,560 20	13,094 00
34	Pacific.....	90	27,155 27	800 00
35	St. Louis.....	222	59,115 72	8,463 00
36	South Brazil.....	1	394 81	.....
37	South Carolina.....	245	62,312 58	4,300 00
38	South Georgia.....	523	134,387 35	20,759 50
39	Southwest Missouri.....	193	68,199 63	9,325 00
40	Tennessee.....	414	124,739 22	11,000 00
41	Texas.....	462	93,352 86	38,239 65
42	Texas-Mexican Mission.....	8	1,723 86	.....
43	Upper South Carolina.....	243	90,718 82	9,550 00
44	Virginia.....	457	165,081 60	70,600 00
45	Western Mexican Mission.....	8	1,243 66	.....
46	Western North Carolina.....	411	139,816 69	12,250 00
47	Western Virginia.....	124	30,277 29	4,550 00
48	West Texas.....	245	59,384 43	1,200 00
Totals.....		10,580	\$2,673,068 01	\$724,621 45

Conference Boards from 1882 to March 31, 1932

No. Aided	Previously Aided	Net New	DURING YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1932, AMOUNT PAID		Net Total	FROM 1882 TO MARCH 31, 1932, TOTAL AMOUNTS PAID	
			Donations	Loans		Donations	Loans
3	2	1	\$ 630 00	\$ 2,900 00	485	\$ 99,477 43	\$ 18,411 00
15	9	6	4,895 00	.....	14	2,737 33	200 00
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	303	124,678 43	5,800 00
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	5,532 98	69 65
1	1	.....	.....	3,400 00	6	256 00	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	306	85,471 08	76,648 00
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	10,687 34	.....
.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	5,507 15	.....
13	8	5	2,645 00	2,404 40	282	58,460 88	29,131 25
19	12	7	4,400 00	2,000 00	398	110,098 89	34,065 00
2	1	1	75 00	800 00	56	4,974 96	5,033 00
.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	503 00	.....
5	4	1	1,300 00	500 00	153	46,855 33	6,885 00
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	3,510 26	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	305	64,804 20	3,172 00
7	6	1	1,137 50	840 00	217	44,573 58	3,525 00
5	3	2	775 00	.....	271	70,024 58	2,500 00
7	5	2	1,850 00	.....	372	84,237 16	18,245 00
7	4	3	1,425 00	1,750 00	29	5,623 70	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	359	72,041 01	26,725 00
6	4	2	1,350 00	1,000 00	227	87,602 61	12,354 00
3	3	.....	1,250 00	1,554 00	64	16,328 13	2,335 00
2	.....	2	400 00	750 00	414	87,001 12	48,633 66
5	3	2	1,100 00	1,200 00	372	53,698 27	21,612 11
10	7	3	937 50	1,150 00	386	108,246 30	35,450 00
9	5	2	2,475 00	.....	491	124,567 77	41,775 00
7	5	4	2,100 00	5,000 00	428	75,800 63	7,678 47
5	3	2	700 00	500 00	318	70,811 02	87,867 30
4	4	.....	534 25	7,500 00	77	13,020 35	821 26
1	1	.....	71 56	.....	238	45,032 34	65,402 00
5	3	2	500 00	600 00	345	63,890 20	14,794 00
4	4	.....	300 00	1,700 00	90	28,283 27	800 00
7	7	.....	1,128 00	.....	224	60,915 72	9,063 00
9	7	2	1,800 00	600 00	1	394 81	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	247	63,912 58	4,300 00
6	4	2	1,600 00	.....	527	137,553 35	23,159 50
14	10	4	3,175 00	2,400 00	193	63,749 63	9,325 00
2	2	.....	550 00	.....	415	127,701 56	11,000 00
15	14	1	2,962 34	.....	465	94,127 86	41,359 65
7	4	3	775 00	3,150 00	8	1,723 86	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	244	94,275 52	9,550 00
7	6	1	3,556 70	.....	462	170,881 60	72,850 00
12	7	5	5,800 00	2,250 00	8	1,243 66	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	413	142,601 69	12,250 00
11	9	2	2,785 00	.....	128	31,912 29	4,750 00
7	3	4	1,635 00	200 00	249	60,309 43	1,560 00
7	3	4	925 00	360 00	.....	.....	.....
249	173	76	\$57,542 85	\$44,508 40	10,656	\$2,730,610 86	\$769,129 85

CHARTER

AN ACT to incorporate the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Whereas, at a General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, held in the City of Nashville, in the State of Tennessee, on the twenty-second day of May, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, it was resolved to organize a Board of Church Extension; and whereas a Constitution was then adopted, and the officers and members of said Board were selected by said General Conference, and requested to procure an act of incorporation for said Board under the laws of the State of Kentucky, whereby they and their successors in office, in perpetual succession, shall be made a body corporate, under the name of the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and whereas, since the organization of this Board, vacancies have occurred by the death of Robert Paine, one of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and by the resignation of C. B. Seymour and J. C. Woodward, which last two vacancies have been filled by the election of Charles S. Grubbs and John L. Wheat, and the Board, as it is now constituted, consists of the persons named in the first section of this Act; therefore, be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION I. That George F. Pierce, H. H. Kavanaugh, H. N. McTyeire, John C. Keener, A. W. Wilson, Linus Parker, J. C. Granbery, and Robert K. Hargrove, the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and those who may hereafter hold the same office; and James S. Lithgow, Presley Meguiar, David Morton, James G. Carter, Charles S. Grubbs, John L. Wheat, H. C. Settle, of the City of Louisville, Kentucky; John W. Proctor, of Danville, Kentucky; James C. Morris, of Denver, Colorado; F. B. Carroll, of Parkersburg, West Virginia; G. D. Shands, of Senatobia, Mississippi; C. I. Vandeventer, of Saint Joseph, Missouri; W. T. Harris, of Brownsville, Tennessee; C. E. Brown, of Waxahachie, Texas; W. F. Compton, of Ukiah, California; Joseph Emery, of Corvallis, Oregon; and James H. Carlisle, of Spartanburg, South Carolina; and their successors be, and they are hereby, created a body politic and corporate, by the name, style, and title of the "Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity, and elsewhere, and shall be able and capable, in law or equity, to take and hold to them and their successors, either by gift, devise, grant, bargain, sale, release, or otherwise, any lands or real estate whatsoever, and also to take and hold, for the use of said Society, any goods and chattels, sum or sums of money, choses in action, and other personal property, whether by gift, grant, bargain, sale, will, devise, bequest, or otherwise, from any person or source whatever, capable of making the same, and the said real and personal estate, to grant a lien and dispose of at their pleasure, and generally to do all matters and things which shall be lawful for them to do for the well-being and proper management of the affairs of said corporation.

SEC. II. That it shall be lawful for said corporation to have and use a common seal, and at pleasure to change, alter or renew the same; and the said corporation shall have and exercise all the rights, privileges and immunities necessary for the purposes as herein expressed.

SEC. III. This corporation is organized and incorporated for the purpose of assisting the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to extend and establish the institutions of Christianity throughout the United States and Territories, and elsewhere as the Board may determine, by aiding wherever necessary, to secure suitable houses of religious worship and such other property as may promote the general design.

SEC. IV. The officers of this corporation shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as the Constitution of the Board may require; all of whom shall be chosen in the manner prescribed in the Constitution of said Board, and shall perform the duties imposed by virtue or under authority thereof.

SEC. V. The management and disposition of the affairs and property of this corporation shall be vested in said officers and thirteen managers together with the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which officers and managers shall be elected in the manner prescribed in the Constitution of said Board; and said corporation shall have authority to make by-laws for the regulation of its own proceedings, to fill vacancies that may occur in its own body during the interim of the regular elections; and to do all other things necessary to the purposes of the organization not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of Kentucky, or of the United States, or the Constitution of the Board.

SEC. VI. That the Constitution of the said Board be, and is hereby, made binding in law upon said Board, and upon the officers and managers thereof, and the said Constitution may be altered or amended by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in all cases when such proposed amendment or alteration may not conflict or be inconsistent with this Act, or the Constitution and laws of Kentucky, or of the United States.

SEC. VII. That the property and investments of said corporation shall be exempt from taxation of all kinds.

SEC. VIII. This Act shall be in force from and after its passage.

CHARLES OFFUTT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JAMES R. HINDMAN,

Speaker of the Senate.

J. PROCTOR KNOTT

Approved February 20, 1884.

By the Governor:

J. A. MCKENZIE, *Secretary of State.*

AMENDMENT TO CHARTER

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION I. That an Act entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," approved February twentieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-four, be amended as follows: "That it shall be lawful for said Board of Church Extension to accept contributions to the funds of said Board from any person or persons capable of making the same, subject to annuity payable to the order of the person or persons making such donations; but all amounts so received shall be loaned by said Board on adequate security or securities, and the aggregate annuities that the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed one-half of the annual interest receivable on the loans made by said Board."

SEC. II. This Act shall be in force from and after its passage.

CHARLES OFFUTT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JAMES R. HINDMAN,

Speaker of the Senate.

J. PROCTOR KNOTT

Approved March 10, 1886.

By the Governor:

J. A. MCKENZIE, *Secretary of State.*

CONSTITUTION

OF THE BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION

(As It Appeared at the Time of the Annual Meeting, 1932.)

The work of Church Extension shall be conducted under the following provisions and regulations:

ARTICLE I. There shall be a Board of Church Extension, consisting of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and twenty Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the General Conference on nomination of the Committee on Church Extension—except the Secretary, who shall be elected by ballot, as are other connectional officers, and continue in office until their successors are elected and accepted. The Bishops and Secretary of the Board of Missions shall be ex-officio members of the Board. The Board shall fill vacancies that may occur during the intervals of the sessions of the General Conference.

ARTICLE II. The Board shall be conducted as a body corporate under the name of "The Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," and subject to the provisions of a special charter granted by the Legislature of Kentucky to George F. Pierce, H. H. Kavanaugh, and others, approved February 20, 1884, and amended March 10, 1886, and such amendments thereof

as from time to time be adopted under the sanction of the General Conference; subject, however, to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the General Conference, not contrary to the charter, nor in excess of the powers that may be thereunder lawfully exercised.

ARTICLE III. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board, under its direction, and shall be subject to the authority and control of the Board, by whom his salary shall be fixed and paid. He shall reside where the Board is located.

ARTICLE IV. The Board shall be located in Louisville, Kentucky, and shall meet at least annually, and at such times as the Board, or the President and Secretary, may appoint. Fifteen shall constitute a quorum. The fiscal year of the Board shall close on March 31.

ARTICLE V. The revenues of the Board shall be derived from annual collections in every congregation; from special collections by the Secretary, Pastors, Presiding Elders, Lay Leaders, and Bishops; and from gifts, devises, and bequests.

ARTICLE VI. It shall be lawful for the Board to accept contributions to its funds from any person capable of making them, subject to annuities payable to the order of the person making such donations; but all amounts so received shall be loaned by the Board on adequate security and the aggregate amount of annuities that the Board shall assume to pay shall never be allowed to exceed one-half of the annual interest receivable on the loans made by it.

ARTICLE VII. The Board shall have authority to regulate its own proceedings; to determine what amount the Church shall be asked to raise by collections for the use of the Board during the ensuing year; to appropriate money to pay incidental expenses; to determine what amount may be donated or loaned to each applicant; and to do such other business as may be legitimate and proper for them to do; provided, however, that no money shall be appropriated in the general work for other purposes than the purchase or securing of church lots and the erection or securing of church buildings and parsonages; and provided, further, that the Board shall not involve itself in debt, except as provided for in Article VI.

ARTICLE VIII. The Board shall have authority to raise and administer a Loan Fund, which shall be held separate from funds raised for general distribution, and which shall be used only in loans on adequate security, to be determined by the Board; to receive and hold in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, any real or personal property, and to sell and convey it for the uses and objects herein declared.

ARTICLE IX. All applications for aid shall set forth:

1. A description of the building for which aid is asked.
2. The estimated and probable cost when completed.
3. The amount of cash and reliable subscriptions now on hand.

4. The nature of the title, its validity, and whether held in trust for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

5. The names of the Board of Trustees.

6. The number of Church members, Sunday school scholars, and population of the place, if within a town or city.

7. Every application for aid, whether to the General Board or to the Conference Board, must have the approval of the Quarterly Conference of the charge from which it comes.

8. Any additional facts that may be required by the Board, or that may be deemed necessary or useful to it in making a decision.

ARTICLE X. The Board shall elect five persons, who, together with five representatives elected by the General Sunday School Board, shall constitute a Joint Committee on Church and Sunday School Architecture. This Committee shall have authority to prepare standards for the co-operating Boards. The Committee shall also be authorized, under such provisions as the Boards may agree upon, to offer advice and guidance to the Church in the erection of church and Sunday school buildings.

ARTICLE XI. Each Annual Conference shall organize a Conference Board of Church Extension, which shall be auxiliary to the General Board, and shall have charge of all the interests and work of Church Extension within the Conference. It shall be composed of one lay member from each District and an equal number of clerical members, who shall be elected quadrennially by the Annual Conference. The Conference Board shall elect its own officers. Its Secretary and Treasurer shall each make a report to the Board of Church Extension at such times and subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Board. The preachers shall see that a collection is taken up in each church annually for Church Extension; and the amount collected on assessment or otherwise for the General Board shall be turned over to that Board, and the amount collected on assessment or otherwise for the Conference Board shall be turned over to its Treasurer, to be expended under its direction, unless donors give special directions concerning their contributions. Provided, further, that any Conference Board may turn over all funds to the General Board to be expended by it within the bounds of the Conference under the direction of the Conference Board. Provided, further, that before any donation authorized by a Conference Board is paid by the Treasurer, there shall be filed with him a certificate from a reputable attorney, clerk of court, register of deeds, or keeper of records in the county in which the beneficiary is located, testifying that the Trustees of the recipient Church hold a good and indefeasible title to the property and that the deed contains the "trust clause," also a certificate from the Trustees to the effect that the property is insured in an amount satisfactory to the Board. If, however, it should be found impossible to perfect the title to the property, the Conference Board may make the donation, notwithstanding the de-

fect in title, provided three-fourths of the members of the Board present and voting shall agree.

The Conference Board shall also have authority to loan any part of its funds, where the end desired can be accomplished as well by a loan as by a donation, and the amount loaned shall become a part of the Conference Board Loan Fund, to be administered by the General Board on the same terms and conditions as the Loan Funds of the General Board are administered; provided, that the Conference Boards shall have the right of appropriation. The General Board shall make detailed reports of all Conference Board funds to all meetings of the Conference Board or its Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XII. A City Board of Church Extension may be organized in a city having three or more pastoral charges of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, under the following general provisions: (1) The Members of this Board shall be elected by the Quarterly Conferences on nomination of the preachers in charge, who, with the Presiding Elders of the District embracing such cities, shall be ex-officio members thereof, and shall be authorized to incorporate under the laws of the state where it is located; (2) This Board shall have authority to locate churches and parsonages, advise Quarterly Conferences, as to their size, style, and cost, secure donations and funds in the cities where located for their erection—and see that the title in each case is secured in trust for the Church as the Discipline prescribes; (3) The City Board shall co-operate with the General Board in the procurement of Special Loan Funds to be administered by the General Board according to its regulations, for the benefit of the particular cities in which such funds are raised, when so directed by the donors or requested by the City Board concerned; (4) The City Board shall also have authority to do all acts necessary to the work of Church Extension and Missions in the city where located not in violation of the rules, regulations, and work of the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension and the General and Conference Boards of Missions; (5) The City Board shall report through its Secretary and Treasurer to the General Board and to the Conference Board the names and value of church edifices and parsonages aided, the amount of its receipts and disbursements, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the General Board. No part of its work shall conflict with collections and operations of the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension. A City Board shall file a copy of its Charter, Constitution, and By-Laws with the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension.

ARTICLE XIII. A District Board of Church Extension may be organized in any Presiding Elder's District under the following general provisions: (1) On nomination of the Presiding Elder, the District Conference shall elect a Board of not less than seven members. This Board shall be authorized to incorporate under the

laws of the state in which it is located, and shall have authority to direct all funds secured by it for the purpose and under the regulations hereinafter stated, subject to the approval of the District Conference; (2) the District Board shall have authority to secure by donations, devise, purchase, or otherwise, real estate or property of other kinds, and dispose of it for the use and benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, within the District where it is located; (3) it shall also have authority to do all acts necessary to the work of Church Extension and Missions in the District not in violation of the rules, regulations, and work of the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension and the General and Conference Boards of Missions; (4) it shall report through its Secretary and Treasurer to the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension the names and value of church edifices and parsonages aided, the amount of its receipts and disbursements, and such other items as may be of general interest, and at such time and subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the General Board; (5) it shall co-operate with the General Board in raising special Loan Funds, to be administered by the General Board according to its regulations for the benefit of the particular section in which such funds are requested by the District Board concerned; provided, that the District Board shall have the right of appropriation. A District Board shall file a copy of its Charter, Constitution, and By-Laws with the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension.

ARTICLE XIV. With the consent of the Annual Conference and the Bishop in charge, any Annual Conference, City, or District Board of Church Extension may employ a Secretary to give all or part of his time to the interests of the Board in the territory represented by it.

Whenever practicable, these auxiliary organizations shall establish Loan Funds, which shall be administered through the office of the Board of Church Extension in the interest of church building within the Annual Conference, city, or Presiding Elder's District represented. The interest earned by such Loan Funds may be used, as donations, to assist needy congregations in building churches, if so desired, and the principal loaned within the territory represented, if there be demand for it, and the security be approved by the Board of Church Extension.

ARTICLE XV. Presiding Elders shall bring the subject of Church Extension prominently before the District and Quarterly Conference, and see that the most efficient plans are adopted for raising the amounts apportioned to each charge; and the Bishops shall call for a report of the Annual Conference Board in the regular order of Conference proceedings, and direct attention to the subject.

ARTICLE XVI. The Conference Board may elect a committee, one of whom may be the President of the Conference Board, which, together with a like committee of the Conference Sunday School

BOARD MEMBERS, TABLES, CHARTER, AND CONSTITUTION

Board, shall constitute a Joint Committee on Architecture, whose duties it shall be to promote the standards of Sunday school and church architecture provided by the Joint Committee on Architecture from the General Sunday School Board and the Board of Church Extension.

